

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 531.

LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1837.

PRICE
FOURPENCE.
(Stamped Edition, 5s.)

For the convenience of Subscribers in remote places, the weekly numbers are reissued in Monthly Parts, stitched in a wrapper, and forwarded with the Magazines.—Subscriptions for the Stamped Edition for the Continent, for not less than 3 Months, and in advance, are received by M. BAUDRY, 9, Rue du Coq-St.-Honoré, Paris, or at the Athenæum Office, London. For France, and other Countries not requiring postage to be paid in London, 2s. 6d. or 1l. 2s. the year. To other countries, the postage in addition.

REVIEWS

Truths and Fictions of the Middle Ages. 'The Merchant and the Friar.' By Sir Francis Palgrave, K.H. Parker.

WHEN the Abbé Barthélémy undertook to enlighten his countrymen on the subject of Greek Antiquities, he knew better than to discourse on it after the ancient method, or to give his work the title which rightly belonged to it. He surrounded his valuable pictures by a slight frame-work of fable, and called them the 'Travels of Anacharsis the younger in Greece.' By this expedient, he took the public by surprise: those who had no great acquaintance with the source of European civilization, thought either that the veritable travels of some ancient had just been discovered, or that some more recent inhabitant of that classic region had undertaken to describe its actual state. The result justified the expedient: small as was the admixture of fable, the book had a success which no man could have foreseen; it did more to make Grecian history, society, and manners, intelligible to the great bulk of French, and, we may add, of English readers, than any or all others that could be named.

Some kindred motive to that which animated the Frenchman, has doubtless led Sir Francis Palgrave to adopt the same innocent deception. His object is, to acquaint the reader with the state of the English constitution and of English society in the thirteenth century; and to render it the more attractive, he has entitled his book 'The Merchant and the Friar.' That merchant is the celebrated Marco Polo; this friar is the more famous Roger Bacon. The personages are well chosen; the incidents selected are striking; the reflections are instructive, though, in some instances, bearing the impress of the author's political creed, rather than that of the period. The frame-work, in which the descriptions are set, has even less of the fictitious than the work of Barthélémy; yet—and this, for an Englishman, is no slight praise—it is assuredly as interesting. The volume deserves to be, and probably will be, a popular one; yet we wish the author had, in appended notes, indicated the sources whence his statements were derived. In this respect, his book is less useful than the Frenchman's, which, whether drawn through second-hand channels or not, abounds with citations.

The first chapter, 'The Refectory,' introduces us to the Venetian traveller and Bacon, with other less important actors. It is the refectory of the monastery of Abington that receives the honoured guests—for here Bacon, being a Franciscan friar, is as much a guest as the merchant. As, however, the scene has no necessary connexion with those which follow, we will only observe, that, well as the author is acquainted with political and domestic life, he is rather ignorant of the conventual. No such angry disputes as those he records ever took place in a refectory, where the greatest silence is, by every monastic rule in Christendom, observed, and where the voice of the reader only is heard. The second chapter, 'The County Election,' is more true to life. The county, that is, the knights, burgesses, and women, have been convened by the sheriff to deliberate in the shire court, and much alarmed are all to hear the reading of the proclamation for the assembling of a new parliament. To

them, who knew that such assemblies were never convened except when the crown wanted money, the proclamation was anything rather than welcome; nor was there in all England a county or town which would not eagerly have escaped from the burthensome honour of sending and of supporting representatives:—

"Parliament!—The effect of the announcement was magical. Parliament!—Even before the second syllable of the word had been uttered, a vision of aids and subsidies instantly rose before the appalled multitude:—assessors and collectors fitted in the ambient air. And whilst the Sheriff and the other functionaries preserved a tranquil, but not a cheerful gravity, every one else present, high or low, earl or churl, as the Anglo-Saxon rhyme has it, seem impressed with the common fear of the impending visitation, and occupied by the thoughts of averting or evading the blow. Sir Gilbert de Hastings instinctively plucked his purse out of his sleeve: and, drawing the strings together, he twisted and tied them, in the course of half a minute of nervous agitation, into a Gordian knot, apparently defying any attempt to undo it, except by the means practised by the son of Ammon: but which, as the owner well knew by sad experience, would fail to defend the contents against the dexterous untravelling of the cunning emissaries of the Treasury.

"Hastings tarried in the field. But the Abbot of Osney forthwith guided his steed to the right-about, and rode away from the meeting as fast as he could trot, turning the deafest of deaf ears to the monitions which he received.—'My Lord Abbot, we want you!'—'My Lord trotted on.—'My Lord Abbot, we want you!'—vociferated the Sheriff in a voice of thunder.—'My Lord heard nothing, but continued his progress until he was intercepted by the Porte-joye, who, respectfully doffing his cap, and offering a salutation which the Abbot seemed very unwilling to return, attempted to serve the Prelate with the much-abominated process, the writ of summons, by which he was commanded, all other matters laid aside, to attend in person at the Parliament, to treat with and give counsel to the King upon the affairs which should be then and there propounded."

This abbot of Osney had long evaded every parliamentary summons, though efforts enough were made to serve him with the requisite notice. Once, the messenger being resolute to succeed in his object, had assumed the disguise of a penitent to the shrine of St. Brithwold; but so soon as his errand was disclosed, he received such a salutary discipline from the knotted scourges provided by the monks for the benefit of the visitors to the shrine, that he returned a penitent indeed.

The temporal barons and knights were equally reluctant to assume the burthensome obligation of attendance in parliament. When Sir Richard de Pogeys heard himself nominated, he galloped away from the shire mote. The sheriff, in a loud voice, ordered the bailiffs to pursue him, to capture him, and even commit him to prison, unless he found good bail for his appearance amongst the Commons the first day of the ensuing session. There was a glorious chase! The horse of Sir Richard stumbling, the bailiffs made sure of their prize, and rushed on him. But the result was evident, without explanation, when the officers rejoined the assembly, by the limping gait of the one, and the closed eye of the other; and the mortified sheriff was compelled to make the following return to the Chancellor:—

"Sir Richard de Pogeys, Knight, duly elected by the Shire, refused to find bail for his appearance in Parliament at the day and place within mentioned,

and having grievously assaulted my Bailiffs, in contempt of the King, his crown and dignity, and absconded to the Chiltern Hundreds, into which Liberty, not being shire-land or guildable, I cannot enter, I am unable to make any other execution of the writ, as far as he is concerned."

The Chiltern Hundreds were not always a fiction: they were a veritable locality, in which the knight of the shire who was averse to entering parliament might take refuge, and be secure from the pursuit of the sheriff; but when once the member had taken his seat in the house, this sanctuary was no longer open to him. He could not, as now, violate the constitution, sacrifice his own independence, and betray his constituents by retiring to it.

If the office of representative was dreaded by the more wealthy knights, it was welcome enough to the poorer ones, who were well paid for their attendance. Throughout our parliamentary history—down, at least, to the accession of the Tudors, there are complaints of the partial returns of the sheriff. Sometimes he took a bribe to protect the rich from the onerous duty of attendance; at others, he was glad to secure the return of a poor kinsman: that he often interfered illegally—that oftener still he made a false return, is certain. The following is scarcely overcharged:—

"A pause ensued, and Sir Giles presented himself, as if to receive the nomination of the Court. No one came forward, and the High Sheriff, with much more patience and forbearance than might have been expected from him, continued apparently waiting for the nomination. At this moment, a hawk which one of the followers of Sir Giles bore upon his fist, having broken her leash, soared upwards, and then descended in her flight, attracted by rather an ignoble object, a pigeon, after whom she winged her way. This spectacle, as might be supposed, drew off the attention of the crowd.—Trafalgar, indeed, always maintained, to his dying day, that it was no accident, but that Martin-o'-the-Mews had slipped the leash when nudged by Sir Giles,—and during their diversion from the business, the Sheriff, after a few minutes' conversation with the Knights who were nearest to him, recalled the attention of the Shiresmen, by declaring that Sir Thomas de Turberville was fairly elected by the County, as the other Knight to serve for the same in Parliament, and that John att Green and Richard att Wood were his manueptors.

"This declaration excited a universal outcry of discontent and indignation amongst the Shiresmen. They whooped, scolded, groaned, and John Trafford again acting as spokesman, loudly accused the Sheriff with jobbing and collusion, employing the most uncourteous and unmeasured language. 'It is a repetition of the fraud and deceit which you practised at the last Parliament, when you levied seven pounds sterling for the wages of your ally and cater-cousin Sir Marmaduke Vavasour, being at the enormous rate of four shillings and eightpence a day—two groats above the settled allowance—whereas he was never duly elected by us, and we could have hired as good a member, aye, and a better one, who would have been glad to do all the work of the county for five pounds, yea, even five marks, and who would have agreed in the lump, to accept the said sum for all his expenses going and returning, and for all his keep at Westminster, let the Parliament sit as long as it might—yea, even for a whole month.' Voices were rising louder and louder, and there was every appearance of a new storm. But the banner of Sir Giles de Argentien, emblazoned with the bearing allusive to his name—the three cups of silver—was elevated, the trumpets sounded, the horses were in motion, and the spearmen and knights, closing round the Sheriff

pierced through the crowd, and the meeting was dissolved."

The chapter on 'The Guildhall' would be an admirable one, did not the political tendencies of the writer too openly appear. Nor do we concur in many of his assumptions: the aldermen he will have to be the descendants of some privileged class—some dominant *caste*, coeval with the foundation of the Saxon monarchy. There is more reason, we think, to infer, that neither birth nor dignity entered into the character—that the office was purely elective—and that the man was chosen, partly for his talents, and partly for his wealth. Hereditary distinctions might, and doubtless did, prevail, in other elections: the earl, the sheriff, were noble, and always men of landed inheritance; but the municipalities were created as a counterpoise to the influence of the nobility, and almost uniformly consisted of the industrious classes. This fact Sir Francis Palgrave overlooks. His sympathies, his predilections, his heart, are with the privileged orders; and every concession to popular liberty he regards as an encroachment on transmitted rights—as a virtual rebellion against the authority established by heaven—as subversive of the fundamental principles of society. With him, government is not, and ought not to be, a compact; it is a right unalienably attached to a certain class. The following exhibits a hearty contempt of the people's rights, and of the people themselves:—

"I guess," said the philosophical supercargoe, Jonathan Downing, when he wrote home from Canton to his uncle the Major,—that there really be but two sorts of good government in the nature of things:—Bamboo, or the like, as in China, and Bamboozle, or the like, as in the old Country;—but we, in the States, use 'em both, and our's is the grandest government in the universe,—Bamboo for the Niggers, and Bamboozle for ourselves."

"A distinguished orator, whom I am proud to call 'my friend,' the grace and ornament of the Marybone vestry, tells me, further, that Man is an animal whom it is more easy to lead than to drive. If you can but tickle him up through his vanity, he is just like the Irishman's pig—you can make him believe he is going to Cork all the while you are taking him to Fermoy. Whatever collective body you may be dealing with—I must not be personal or particular—he, my authority, 'my friend,' says it is just the same. Make them—your mob, your members, your mob-members, or your mob of members—pleased with themselves, by teaching them to rely on their own wisdom, and you will do more with them than if you had done what no living creature has ever yet been able to do,—than if you had read Bentham Dumont's 'Tactique des Assemblées Législatives,' from end to end."

Sir Francis, as might be presumed, has a horror of the voluntary principle in church matters, and there is much truth in what he says on the subject; but there is exaggeration in the following paragraph, "that among the endless varieties of sects, sectaries, and persuasions which fill the eleemosynary pulpits of the American Union, not one single minister has dared to breathe a syllable in reprobation of that inhuman system of slavery which contaminates their commonwealth." Now, we do not deny that there is but too much justice in this censure—that the ministers of religion in the United States have been, as a body, shamefully negligent of their duty, in not denouncing the most accursed evil on the face of the earth; but there are many exceptions, and among the most illustrious is Dr. Channing, whose published work on the subject ought to have been known to Sir Francis Palgrave.

We have not, perhaps, dwelt on this little book so much as its merits demand, but as much as our limits will allow. With all the bias of the author towards the unpopular side, it is an excellent work. We wish, however, that the subject had been treated of less briefly—that Sir Francis

had favoured us with two ample octavos, instead of one small duodecimo.

The History of Party. By G. W. Cooke, Esq. Vol. III., A.D. 1762—1832. Macrone.

Mr. Cooke commences his third volume with the revolution in the British Cabinet, which took place immediately after the accession of George III., when the party called "the king's friends" succeeded to the combination of Whig families, which had held the reins of power from the commencement of the Hanoverian dynasty. Dealing less severely with the Earl of Bute than is usual with Whig writers, he points to Mr. Grenville as the first mover of the two measures which produced the most unfortunate results in the early part of George III.'s reign, the prosecution of Wilkes, and the taxation of America. These were fatal bequests to the Rockingham administration; its members hated both measures, but they wanted energy to resist the known wishes of the king—they temporized with Wilkes by a pension, and with the Americans by a repeal of the obnoxious tax; but Wilkes was not thankful for what had been extorted from their fears, and the Americans were more displeased with the assertion of right, than grateful for the removal of the impost. Passing lightly over the "tesselated" cabinet of Lord Chatham and Charles Townshend, Mr. Cooke dwells at great length on the Grafton administration, immortalized by Junius, and examines the various constitutional questions which arose out of the Middlesex election. Thence he passes to the American war, and endeavours to fix the responsibility of that unfortunate contest upon Lord North. It is now generally known that Lord North was, probably from the beginning, opposed to the war, and advocated it only to gratify the king; indeed, we some time since published conclusive evidence of this fact—(see 'Extracts from the Letters of George III. to Lord North,' *Athen.* No. 393). We cannot, therefore, join in the condemnation of the minister's inconsistency, when he brought forward his conciliatory measures in 1778, and declared "he never had proposed any tax on America; he found the Americans already taxed, when he, unfortunately, as he still must say, whatever use had been or might be made of the word, came into administration."

Mr. Cooke seems disposed to favour the second Rockingham ministry; we, on the contrary, think its formation one of the greatest blunders in the history of party; the Whigs repeated their old error of making an aristocratic cabinet, admitting no one to important office but the connexions of the great Whig families; they retained Thurlow as Chancellor, and made Kenyon Attorney General, passing over the claims of such men as Glynn and Duinning; and they equivocated with the question of Reform, the only means of giving stability to their party, until the reins of power slipped from their hands. Mr. Cooke throws no new light on the dispute between Lord Shelburne and Mr. Fox, after the death of the Marquis of Rockingham, which led to the secession of the latter, and the formation of the coalition ministry; he hints, indeed, that Fox was influenced by personal jealousy of Shelburne's power; but it is more probable, that he was annoyed at the marked difference made by the king between himself and his colleagues, and was thus led to form a plan for taking the cabinet by storm.

Here our criticism must stop, for the French Revolution is not yet removed from the sphere of contemporary history: though Pitt, Fox, Burke, and Sheridan have disappeared from the stage, some of those with whom they lived and acted still survive, and most of the principles mooted in their contest combine matters of dis-

pute at the present day. We cannot congratulate Mr. Cooke on the execution of his task; in the latter part of his history especially we find numerous examples of hasty judgment, and either ignorance or suppression of facts pretty generally known. We may instance his account of Sheridan's conduct in the negotiations with Lords Grey and Grenville, and of the breaking up of Lord Goderich's administration.

Prousiones Architectonicæ. By W. Wilkins, A.M., R.A., Regius Professor of Architecture in the Royal Academy. 4to. Weale.

Mr. Wilkins has already taken his place among the classic writers on architecture; and his authority, although objected to in some points, has been cited by the most distinguished critics of the day, whether English or foreign, who have had to treat on the subject. His labours in elucidation of the obscurities of Vitruvius have been pre-eminently successful; and his minute investigation of the celebrated inscription on the Marmor Atheniense, proved at once the erudition of the scholar and the science of the architect. The first essay in this book relates to that most peculiar of all the buildings of the ancients which time has spared, the triple Temple of the Acropolis, the Eretheum; and his description of its varied appropriation, distribution, and construction, is very valuable, as is also his corrected translation of the Athenian inscription. The reader is furnished with a very accurate copy of the original marble, in which Mr. Wilkins's suggestions for the completion of the *hiatus* are distinctly marked in red ink; and this is followed by a translation, paragraph by paragraph, of the *loci veltissimi* of this hitherto obscure document. The two concluding chapters are on the construction of the Roofs of Temples, and on the Temple of Jerusalem, as the type of Grecian architecture; reprints, with some corrections and additional observations, of those elaborate papers which previously appeared in the second edition of the 'Ionian Antiquities,' and his antiquities of Magna Græcia. To those who delight to investigate the rationale of Greek architecture, and who can spare time, from the laborious avocations of professional life, to turn to the consideration of such abstract subjects, we can recommend this volume as affording matter for deep thought, and as offering elucidation of some of the most difficult points in this class of architectural investigation.

The History of Ancient Philosophy, Translated from the German of Dr. Heinrich Ritter. By A. W. J. Morrison, B.A. 2 vols. Oxford, Talboys.

RITTER'S History of Philosophy is very highly esteemed in Germany, and the success of Dr. Tissot's translation proves that it is scarcely less valued in France. The principle on which it is constructed is excellent; the author believes that a historian should be indifferent to all systems, and, before pronouncing any opinion on a theory, that he should exhibit its primary intention, and the peculiar development of humanity which, designedly or not, it opened and maintained. But in such investigations it is exceedingly difficult to dis sever the philosophical elements from those of proximate sciences; in particular, it will be found that the mixture of religious with philosophical speculations, in nearly all the systems of oriental sages, and in those of the earlier Grecian schools, presents almost an identity between doctrines based upon revelation on the one hand, and supported by universal reason on the other. Dr. Ritter, with some limitations, assumes systematic connexion as the distinctive character of the philosophical element, and he thus has narrowed the field of

inquiry to the schools of philosophy in which the co-existing principles were combined and moulded into form. Though we share in some degree Dr. Ritter's dislike of what is called the Constructive school of history, and feel that in the hope of establishing the Absolute and the True, too many writers have imposed upon themselves and their readers by unsubstantial generalities, yet we are by no means prepared to join in his condemnation of those who think that the periods and modes of the development of humanity are reducible to certain forms coincident with the development of reason. So far from this being a principle assumed as antecedent to history, it is clearly an induction derived from all history, but more especially from the history of philosophy. By the total exclusion of this principle Dr. Ritter has shut himself out from all considerations of philosophy in its infancy and its youth, and he only examines it when it has reached the maturity of a system. The most important question to determine is, whether we can discover any fundamental law in the total development of human intelligence, viewed in its various spheres of activity, by which its progress has been and must be invariably regulated. This law we think has been, in a great degree, established by Auguste Comte, in his 'Cours de Philosophie Positive,' and it is simply, that every branch of our knowledge passes successively through three different theoretic stages, the Theological, the Metaphysical, and the Positive. In the first efforts of the human mind, the objects of search are final causes, and the earliest solution of phenomena is, that they are the result of the direct and continued agency of supernatural beings, more or less numerous, whose arbitrary intervention explains all the anomalies of the universe. This is the theological stage of philosophy; it is the philosophy of every child and of every nation in the first period of its advancement. In the Metaphysical stage supernatural agencies give place to certain abstract powers supposed to be inherent in all bodies; and the design of Philosophy is to assign every observed phenomenon to its corresponding power or principle of nature. Positive philosophy abandons the whole question of final causes, and inquires only into the laws of phenomena, that is, their invariable relations of succession and similitude. Different as these stages are, we recognize philosophy in them all, and we rather regret that Dr. Ritter has abandoned the examination of philosophic history in its relation to intellectual development, because we know of no other sound principle of continuity. It is to this we attribute the view which Dr. Ritter takes of oriental philosophy, whose importance and antiquity, we think, he greatly underrates; but, as we shall soon have occasion to examine the question more specifically, we shall here only record our dissent from the author's views. We think that this work will be a valuable acquisition to our literature, for it contains the best view of the Greek philosophic schools with which we are acquainted. The translation, so far as we have been able to examine it, appears to be executed with fidelity, by one who manifestly understands the subject as well as the language.

The Life of Richard Earl Howe, K.G., Admiral of the Fleet. By Sir John Barrow. Murray.

It is remarkable, as observed by Sir John Barrow, that no Life of Admiral Lord Howe has yet been published; it is still more so that the biography now before us, written by one whose position offered such opportunities for collecting information, and seemed to ensure a willing co-operation in all, should be so bald and meagre. This circumstance is, in some degree, explained

by the fact that all Lord Howe's family papers are supposed to have perished by fire. "A chest of papers, after the death of the Earl, and another at the decease of his sister, Mrs. Howe, came into the possession of the youngest daughter, Louisa Catherine Marchioness of Sligo, as the executrix of both. The present Marquis had them sent to his seat at Westport, in Ireland, where, in consequence of a fire which broke out and destroyed many things in the library, it is supposed these papers shared the same fate. The Marquis has caused every search to be made for them, but without success." Still there must be innumerable letters scattered about in private families, and we cannot but express our surprise that all who possess such historical documents did not eagerly offer them for the use of Howe's biographer—for the fame of Lord Howe is a part of the inheritance of his countrymen. He it was who led the way to those triumphs which shed undying lustre on the naval annals of the last war; and "the glorious first of June," though less splendid perhaps in the eye of the historian than the battles of St. Vincent or of the Nile, or of that crowning glory Trafalgar, was not less important in its consequences, for the country had not then been taught by experience to look on victory as the certain result of meeting with an enemy's fleet.

Of the early life of Howe little has been discovered by his present biographer, beyond the brief popular accounts heretofore published. He was the second son of Lord Viscount Howe, who died governor of Barbadoes in 1734, when the subject of this memoir was under ten years of age. There is reason to believe that Howe was educated at Eton, entered the navy when about fourteen, and served therein with credit, but without distinction, for many years. The principal events in his after life were his appointment as Commander-in-Chief on the American station during the American war, and being sent to relieve Gibraltar during its memorable siege in 1778. Then came "the glorious first of June," and fortunately here our information is full and satisfactory; Sir John has been enabled to publish the Admiral's private journal, some letters from his daughter, with anecdotes by surviving officers; and these fill out a very interesting narrative. We must, of necessity, be content with a few extracts. The conduct and situation of the *Marlborough* in that memorable battle were so extraordinary, that we may be excused for specially referring to them:

"The *Marlborough* engaged the *Impetueux* for about twenty minutes, when she payed round off and dropt with his bowsprit over our quarter, where he lay exposed to a very heavy raking fire which we kept up. Every creature was driven from her decks, and some of my men boarded her, but were called back. I had now the satisfaction to see all his masts go over the side. At this moment a seventy-four, which was astern of the *Impetueux*, attempted to weather and rake us; but he met with so severe a reception that he dropt on board his consort's quarter, and then luffing up, boarded the *Marlborough* upon the bow; but the steadiness of our troops, and the good use made of our guns and carronades, prevented him from availing himself of his situation. In a few minutes I had the pleasure of seeing this ship's masts follow the example of the other, and they both lay without firing a gun, or without any colours, which makes me suppose they had struck, as not a soul was upon deck to answer; and what confirmed me in this opinion afterwards, when we were dimasted and lay along-side the *Impetueux*, within half-pistol shot, was, that no attempt was made against us, until our own fleet came up and took possession of them. I now attempted to back off from the two wrecks, and unfortunately accomplished it just as the French admiral came under our stern, who backed his main-topsail and raked us, by which he did us considerable damage, and carried away our three masts. It was from this ship I re-

ceived my wound, and therefore the remainder is the account of my first lieutenant."

Lieutenant Monckton thus proceeds:—"At the time Captain Berkeley was obliged to quit the deck, we were still on board, but backing clear of our opponents; our masts being then shot away by the three-decker under our stern, carried away the ensign staff, and deprived us of hoisting any colours for a few minutes. I ordered the wreck to be cleared away from the colour chest, and spread a Union Jack at the spritsail-yard, and a St. George's ensign at the stump of the foremast; but perceiving that the latter was mistaken by some of our own ships for the tri-coloured flag, I ordered the flag to be cut off. At this time we were laying along the *Impetueux*, within pistol-shot; and, finding that she did not return a gun, and perceiving she was on fire, I ordered our ship to cease firing at her, and suffered them quietly to extinguish the flames, which I could easily have prevented with our musketry. While clearing away the wreck, the rear of the enemy's fleet was coming up, and perceiving that they must range close to us, and being determined never to see the British flag struck, I ordered the men to lie down at their quarters to receive their fire, and to return it afterwards if possible; but being dimasted, she rolled so deep that our lower-deck ports could not be opened. The event was as I expected; the enemy's rear passed us to leeward very close, and we fairly ran the gauntlet of every ship which could get a gun to bear, but luckily without giving us any shot between wind and water, or killing any men, except two who imprudently disobeyed their officers, and got up at their quarters. Two of their ships, which had tacked, now came to windward of us, and gave us their fire, upon which one of their hulks hoisted a national flag, but upon our firing some guns at her, she hauled it down again; and a three-decker having tacked also, stood towards us, with a full intention, I believe, to sink us if possible: the *Royal George*, however, who I suppose had tacked after her, came up, and, engaging her very closely, carried away her main and mizen-masts, and saved the *Marlborough* from the intended close attack. I then made the signal for assistance on a boat's mast; but this was almost instantly shot away. At five the *Aquila* took us in tow, and soon after we joined the fleet."

In the most desperate moment of the fight a curious incident is said to have occurred on board this ship, and is seemingly well authenticated:—

"The ship was so roughly treated, that a whisper of surrender was said to have been uttered, which Lieutenant Monckton overhearing, resolutely exclaimed, 'he would be d—d if he should ever surrender, and that he would nail her colours to the stump of the mast.' At this moment a cock, having by the wreck been liberated from the broken coop, suddenly perched himself on the stump of the main-mast, clapped his wings, and crowed aloud; in an instant three hearty cheers ran throughout the ship's company."

We must now be content to glean a few scattered anecdotes:—

"His Majesty's ship the *Brunswick* had a large figure-head of the duke, with a laced hat on. The hat was struck off by a shot in the battle. The crew of the *Brunswick*, thinking it a degradation that a prince of that house should continue to be uncovered in face of the enemy, sent a deputation to the quarter-deck to request that Captain Harvey would be pleased to order his servant to give them his laced cocked-hat to supply the loss. The captain, with great good humour, complied, and the carpenter nailed it on the duke's head, where it remained till the battle was finished."

"Just as the *Charlotte* was closing with the *Montagne*, Lord Howe, who was himself conning the ship, called out to Bowen to starboard the helm; to which Bowen remarked, that if they did so she would be on board the next ship, the *Jacobin*: to this his lordship replied, sharply, 'What is that to you, Sir?' Bowen, a little nettled, said, in an under tone, 'D—n my eyes, if I care if you don't; I'll go near enough to singe some of our whiskers.' Lord Howe heard him, and turning to his captain, said, 'That's a fine fellow, Curtis.'

"Some time after the battle, a deputation of the

petty officers and seamen requested Bowen to ask Lord Howe if they might have the gratification of congratulating his lordship on the victory he had gained, and of thanking him for having led them so gloriously into battle. On receiving them on the quarter-deck, Lord Howe himself being on the front of the poop, was so affected, that he could only say, with a faltering voice, and his eyes glistening with tears, 'No, no, I thank you; it is you, my brave lads—I is you, not I, that have conquered.'"

Some of the best anecdotes are told by Lady Mary Howe, in a letter to her sister:—

"Our superiority, in addition to the skill of the dear commander, lay in the resolution and firmness of the common sailors, of which, amongst many others, one occurred on board the Marlborough: to this ship two of the enemy were so close, that one of the sailors said he would visit them on board their own ship." As he was going to leap over, one of his comrades called after him to take a cutlass with him, which he refused, saying, 'he should find one there; and on being called back, actually returned with two of the enemy's cutlasses in his hands.'"

"The crew of the L'America ran below, and, when taken, assured Hugh Conway that it was only a *ruse de guerre*, as they had intended popping out upon him, when he should attempt to board, but somehow the *manœuvre* failed—which seems truly astonishing! They say we acted very unfairly, by not informing them we intended to attack them the day we did, which happened precisely the day they did not expect it, after having been regularly prepared for it for several days preceding that ill-chosen one. To this reasonable objection for our breach of etiquette we may attribute the assurance of the captain of the Northumberland to Captain Bertie, that we were entirely deceived, if we imagined we had gained a victory, it was not even worthy of the name of combat, —'ce n'est qu'une boucherie où vous n'avez montré ni science ni tactique.' I think the ferocious courage that could dictate this observation, from a man who was a prisoner to his conqueror, is worthy of admiration, and of a piece with that of the Jacobin, who fired her upper guns when her lower deck was under water."

"Tom Packenham, who commanded the Invincible, having fired away in a very rude style on one of the French men-of-war, and observing they did not answer the compliment in the manner expected, stopped his fire, and desired to know if the ship had struck. On being answered they had not, he hallooed out, in great rage, 'Then d—n ye, why do you not fire?'"

We must conclude with some further extracts from Lady Mary's letter, in which she gives an account of the King's visit to Portsmouth on the arrival of the fleet:—

"The three young Princesses and Prince Ernest arrived on Wednesday. Mamma and I dined and spent the evening with them, and saw them as happy as the general advantage and every consideration of private friendship could make them. I must say the same of the King and Queen, and the elder Princesses, who appeared almost to share our feelings. They came to the Commissioner's house, at the Dock, at ten o'clock the next morning. We had been desired to attend and receive them; and after remaining about half an hour in the house they all set out to go on board the Queen Charlotte—mamma and I being ordered to go first on board and receive them. On their entering the ship, my father remained on deck under his own flag. The papers will have described their coming on board in my father's barge, steered by Sir A. Douglas, and attended by the Admiralty in their barge, and all the admirals and all the captains of the fleet in their boats. They were saluted by the Queen Charlotte, and all the ships of the fleet, when the royal standard appeared in sight, and cheered by each ship as they passed. Curtis received the King, and led him immediately upon deck. Our attendance on the Queen and Princesses prevented mamma and I from seeing the first meeting of the King and my glorious father, which I am told was the most affecting thing pos-

* "This looks like romance, but it is more than probably true, Captain Berkeley having stated that, when the bowsprit of the Impetueux was over the Marlborough's quarter, and every creature driven from her decks, some of his men boarded her, but were called back."

sible. My father's knees trembled with emotion when he kissed the King's hand, who presented him with a most magnificent sword set with diamonds, and afterwards with a gold chain, to which is to be hung a gold medal struck for the occasion; which is also given to the other admirals and captains who have contributed to this victory, considered as the greatest ever obtained on the sea. My father afterwards kissed the Queen's hand; and then his flag was lowered and the royal standard raised to the main-top-mast's head, and saluted by the whole fleet. The Royal Family then went into the cabin, and appeared happy and comfortable to the highest degree, giving us a thousand proofs of the kindest interest. About three o'clock they went to dinner. * A short time after this, the whole Royal Family walked through the ship's company, drawn up in line, when my father told the King aloud, 'that their diligence and propriety of conduct, in all respects, since the victory, was not less commendable than their resolution and bravery during the action.' Nothing during the day was more pleasing to me than this walk through these brave fellows, every one of whom I am certain would attend my father to a cannon's mouth, and all of whom have exposed their lives for him. We then left the ship with the same ceremonies, and when we were at some distance, the Queen Charlotte began, and the whole fleet saluted. We attended the Royal Family to the stairs at the dock, and then returned home, perhaps the happiest mortals breathing.

"The next day the King held a levee at the governor's, where all the officers of the fleet were presented separately to the King and Queen, and the gold chains given to the admirals; after which the King gave a dinner to the admirals—mamma, Lady Pitt, and I, dining with the Queen; and in the evening the Royals went on board the prizes in the harbour; but there mamma and I did not attend them. On Saturday they sailed about, and dined on board the Aquilon, which struck upon the Motherbank, and we were obliged to come home in boats about nine o'clock, having passed a most delightful day, and with the finest weather possible. I should have said they saw the Prince of Wales launched in the morning. On Sunday they went to church at the dock, where they were attended by all the officers, and heard an admirably fine sermon, which is to be printed, and preached aboard all the ships. The King then dined with the captains of the fleet, and in the evening walked round the ramparts, the Queen and Princesses remaining with us at the governor's. On Monday they left Portsmouth; but, to complete all, went by water to Southampton in the Aquilon, and we with them. After seeing them into their carriage, we returned; when the wind, which had been quite favourable to carry them over, shifted exactly round, and brought us home in three hours, the most delightful sail down the Southampton river in boats I ever went. We got here by five, in time for a second dinner. We were to leave this place yesterday, but have been detained, to my father's severe regret, by the deaths of Captains Harvey and Hutt, who died on Sunday morning, and whose funerals he wished to attend: he is just come home from that most melancholy ceremony. * On Tuesday I go to Tunbridge with Charlotte and her brats, as it is supposed the waters will do us both good, though neither are ill; but Charlotte was so much struck, when she first heard of my father's glorious victory, that it made her as yellow as saffron; and, as I have contrived lately not to look well nor be very strong, (I really believe from anxiety about my father,) it was thought Tunbridge would do me good.

"I will now try to recollect some more particulars to entertain you. The King's present has been carried all round the fleet, to every ship's company, and shown to the sailors by an officer, and a paper read to them, written by my dear father, to express that, as commander-in-chief, and as he considers this proof of the King's approbation in a great measure obtained by their exertions, he was desirous it should be seen by all those who had so much contributed to the victory. The sailors have been delighted with this attention, and the sword and declaration have been greeted with three cheers from every ship. Those on board the Queen Charlotte all touched it; and the whole fleet joined in the wish of health to him to wear it."

The respectful attention shown to the men by sending round the sword, won "in a great degree by their exertions," is a characteristic anecdote of one who was justly called "the sailor's friend," who, when mutiny manifested itself in our fleet, was specially sent for, and who subdued all angry feeling by conciliation and kindness. It is beyond question that the men then had much to complain of; Howe saw the growing dissatisfaction, and lays the blame on "the captains, who kept their men as prisoners on board, when they came into harbour, while they themselves spent a great part of their time on shore, leaving the command of their ships to subordinate officers." It was not disaffection, it was suffering and tyranny, that brought about the mutiny: Howe himself characterizes the delegates as "the most generous minds he ever met with in the same class;"—"their conduct," says Sir John Barrow, "was influenced by a dislike of their officers, but mostly with a view of obtaining an increase of pay, to which it was fully and universally admitted they were in justice entitled. In fact, the sole aim of the seamen was to have their grievances redressed;" and he enlarges enthusiastically on all that has since been done for the seamen. Now all that has since been done might have been done before; and the biographer of "the Sailor's Friend" might have been content to characterize those who afterwards suffered at the Nore, even though they erred, less offensively than as villains, rascals, and wretches, terms as familiar in his mouth as household words.

The Life and Times of Louis the Fourteenth.
By G. P. R. James, Esq. Vols. I. & II.
Bentley.

"WHOEVER"—says Guizot in his Lectures on European Civilization,—"whoever attentively considers the English turn of mind, will be struck with a fact of a twofold nature: on one side, good sense and practical ability; on the other, the absence of general ideas and elevation of mind on purely theoretical questions. Whether we turn to works on history, or jurisprudence, or on any other subject, we rarely find that the great, the fundamental cause of things has been investigated. Philosophy, properly speaking, and especially political science and pure metaphysics, have succeeded much better on the continent than in England." To this accusation against "the most thinking people," we must (at least in these our latter times) plead guilty. The cause assigned by the French philosopher is the mixed nature of our constitution, and the perpetual balance on which we live between conflicting systems, by which no one principle has ever been pushed to its fullest consequences. In this we think that he has pushed his inquiries into "the great fundamental cause" a little too deeply, that he has overshooten his mark, and overlooked a physical fact in the search of a metaphysical theory. Napoleon,—who was a better judge of realities than M. Guizot,—hit off the true cause when he called us a nation of shopkeepers. Our disposition to be practical, and to search after the expedient, rather than the true, is (we rather think) the offspring of our perpetual reference to money, and of the constant strain put on our faculties in order simply to live. *Quarrenda pecunia primum** is not so much a maxim with us, as a necessity—we might almost say a virtue, for he who loses sight of it, unless much favoured by fortune, must sink in the social scale, and become at best a nullity, at worst something less than an honest man. The coarser effect of this influence is to make literature a trade; its remoter and less obvious operation is to alter the

* Get money, money still,
And then let virtue follow—if she will.

public estimate of worth—to introduce upon all literary questions the Hudibrastic standard of value, and to cause, not only things, but actions and thoughts, to be judged by the single reference to “how much money they will bring.” It is not merely that in general the bookseller is become the author’s muse, but in the finer speculations also of the few who do not think and write for pay, much is dragged down to the general level. The language and the ideas of the mass domineer and characterize the thoughts of those who most desire to escape from their influence; while the soaring spirit is perpetually brought back to the world of commonplace, by an apprehension lest over refinement should become “caviare to the general.”

How far this practical turn has been assisted by a direct discouragement of all independent inquiry on the part of those who, in our days, set the fashion in education, it is not to our present purpose to inquire: suffice it that the evil of which we complain is not only a real but a growing evil; and (to come at once to the business in hand) its results are manifested in the fact, that we have scarcely one historical work which can compete with the least elaborate productions of continental writers.

Concerning the striking reign of Louis XIV., and the personal character of that monarch, opinions have long been much divided; a sure sign that they have not been sufficiently investigated or calmly judged. To the contemplation of that portion of history, talents of a high order are therefore especially requisite. While the French writers who preceded the revolution, with Voltaire at their head, have been blinded by the literary splendours of that reign, the protestant and English historians have seen in it merely the revocation of the edict of Nantes and its long suite of bloody and disastrous wars against the liberties of Europe. While one party looks only at the monarch who raised the palace of Versailles, “like an exhalation,” from its marshes, or regards in him the patron of Racine and Molière, the other is accustomed only to see in him a vain and voluptuous Sardanapalus, the tyrant of his people, the dancing-master of his court, and the scourge—the beaten and baffled scourge of neighbouring nations. That there is some truth in each of these representations it must be admitted, but it is only that obvious and barren truism, within every man’s reach, and far from being the whole truth; it is especially wanting in those points which are most essential to a philosophical and a useful judgment of the real meaning and spirit of the times. In the formation of such false and superficial views, the nature and bearing of an uncontrolled despotism has powerfully operated. Louis XIV. has so often repeated to the world *l’état c’est moi*, that he has at last been taken at his word; he has been regarded as the moving spirit of his age, and the character of his reign has been sought in his personal attributes; whereas, like all other human beings, the king was to a great degree the creature of circumstances, and received quite as much as he gave impulses. In every despotic state, it is true, much will depend on the personal character of the monarch; but it is to the fitness of that character for the time in which he lives that he must stand indebted for a conspicuous place in the muster-roll of kings. Louis XIV. was, indeed, like Napoleon, a man born to receive the spirit of his age, and to carry it forward to its fullest result; it is therefore in connexion with his age and by a perfect intelligence of its impulses and tendencies that he can alone be understood and represented in history; but it is precisely in this connexion that he is least known to the majority of English readers. The re-

union of the great fiefs to the crown had long given to the throne a preponderance in the state, which, combined with other causes, contributed to the overthrow of the feudal nobility, and laid the foundation of an inevitable despotism. The great, the practical evil of feudalism was the state of isolation in which it maintained the smaller aggregates of mankind—the absence of all circulation, intellectual or material. The want most sensibly felt in such a state was that of a central power, which, while it drew all things to itself, should put forth its energies to the remotest extremes, causing extensive combinations for general purposes, and concentrating the scattered activity of the people into one mass, whether for the purposes of external aggression or for those of domestic order and increased industry. The people of feudal France had been the victims of numberless petty tyrannies; and they were instinctively led, if not to favour, at least to look with indifference on the aggressions which overthrew their immediate tyrants, and opened a wider sphere to their own growing activity. The constitution of the monarchy and the destruction of feudality were the immediate causes (causes necessary and unforeseen) of immense good to the people; the power of the crown as yet touched the humbler classes remotely; and it was more often exercised for their advantage than against them. Justice, such as it was, was brought nearer home to them, and was regularized; person and property were rendered less insecure: trade and agriculture were at least indirectly encouraged, and, in one word, civilization was advanced. The tendency of the times was therefore—

To fly from petty tyrants to the throne.

The struggle between the nobility and the crown thus had its inevitable conclusion; and the civil and the external wars were but particular aspects of this one leading fact:—that fact, however, which had long been in operation, was wrought into a theory and reduced to a system by Richelieu; and the birth of Louis XIV. may be assumed as the precise moment when the complete decadence and ruin of the ancient combination were accomplished, and when the seeds of a new order began to germinate and to fructify. The course of that monarch was therefore marked out and prescribed for him; and that perseverance and obstinacy, which have proved the ruin of so many kings, were, with him, only the means of preserving him in the course which, amidst much incidental misery and temporary discomfiture, really gave stability to his own government, developed the national character, and laid the foundation of a happier futurity, by the formation of a moral existence for the French people. In this development, the history of the reign of Louis XIV. really consists. Around that fact the endless tissue of intrigues, personalities, and littlenesses—so amusing, yet individually so purposeless—congregate, and become crystallized (so to speak) into an order and a meaning.

Had the people, at the time when these events were preparing, been possessed of wealth, education, or political power, or had the municipal and judicial systems of the empire been really of a popular character, the downfall of feudality might have given rise to a constitutional government. But the precise reverse was the case. Society, in the modern sense of the word, was as yet to be created: education was almost exclusively possessed by the clergy—or, at best, was a purely personal distinction, without the means, and still more without the machinery, for diffusive communication. The democratic element was therefore powerless and inert. In all the factious proceedings of the Parisians themselves, in which they were uni-

formly the tools of individuals, there is no trace of a rational object or a master idea. Hatreds too well founded, or an admiration hastily accorded and capriciously withdrawn, were the mainsprings of popular action; and the consequence was, outrage for the moment, repentance and punishment for the future. In such a state of things, a powerful government was essential to the possibility of a happier future; and the splendours and the extravagance of a court, though adopted perhaps to tame and to corrupt a turbulent aristocracy, supplied a great national and political want, by hastening and diffusing the taste for civil life, and for domestic enjoyments. The court of Louis XIV., with all its immorality and barbarous refinement, was still a college of manners, of sentiment, and of taste. Compared with the courts of Francis I. and Henry IV., that of Louis was far in advance in genuine humanity and civilization: and that society which listened with rapture to the productions of Racine and of Molière, and which produced the philosophy of La Rochefoucauld, and the letters of Madame de Sevigné, was a vast improvement on the gloomy ferocity of the League. The rapidity with which this new state of intellect burst forth, proves two facts:—first, that the nation was prepared to receive a new impression; and secondly, that Louis, in putting himself at the head of the movement, was hurried on by the current of events, and was as much a passive agent, as an active provoker of the changes in progress.

The same may likewise be shown to have been the case in relation to the foreign wars, which have usually been imputed exclusively to the vices of the monarch. Commenced and protracted in obedience to his passions, they yet had national objects in view; they drew forth and flattered the new-born feeling of nationality, till they carried it to a morbid excess; while, by the demand for money which war occasioned, they rendered the development of agriculture and of commerce an absolute necessity. However ill then we may—nay, we must—think of the bigoted voluptuary who divided his long life between the seraglio and the confessional, and of the scoundrel who burned the Palatinate, and dragooned his Protestant subjects and expelled them, we must still admit that the monarch and his policy were a necessity, in the only species of civil improvement of which France was then capable.

In the two volumes which Mr. James has put forth, and which relate solely to the regency and the early growth of the power of Mazarin, no opportunity has occurred for developing his historical theory of the reign: from the specimen, however, which they afford, we are led to suspect either that he has not formed any deep views on the subject, or that it is no part of his design to compete with the continental historians. Judging by the *ex pede Herculeum* rule, we are inclined to believe that the first design of the work arose out of a desire to embody, in a marketable form, the garnered harvest of his reading for his novel of ‘Richelieu;’ for it seems to us little more than a *cento* of translated anecdotes, strung together by a narrative, wanting, of course, in all the charm of the Mottevilles and the De Retzes, so wholly incommunicable in translation. We are inclined also to fear, that this narrative is deficient even in clearness, and that it will not enable the mere English reader to form distinct ideas, either of individuals, interests, or events. In conclusion, we must express a hope that Mr. James, as he advances, will warm with his subject, and rise to a higher tone of historical philosophy.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

The Nabob's Wife, by the author of 'Village Reminiscences.'—The publishers, the critical few, and the reading many, are agreed, we believe, that the dynasty of fiction in England is, at present, "nodding to its fall." But the happy confidence of those who write continues unabated; tale after tale being put forth, which even in the palmy days of novelhood, could hardly have claimed attention, and which will now die and be forgotten in the very hour of their appearing. In 'The Nabob's Wife,' for example, there is no offence, though some improbability in the story—but its characters, scenes, and incidents, have been all displayed a thousand times before; nor is there sufficient grace or elegance about the style, to make us forget from how many familiar sources they have been borrowed.

Fragments and Fancies, by the Lady E. Stuart Wortley.—Whether the excessive fertility of Lady E. S. Wortley's pen be, in some measure, owing to the solicitation and approval of partial friends, we cannot even guess. Here, however, we are, for the twentieth time, called upon to lament it: and it is fruitless, we fear, to say more. This present volume, however, is more satisfactory than many among its predecessors, because it contains some of Lady E. S. Wortley's earlier poems, which were written with a self-distrust and care, which, of late, seem to have been cast to the winds. We do not, however, remember the following short poem,—and shall therefore do ourselves the pleasure of extracting it.

Music and Memory.

Tis the sweet strain I heard in days of yore!—
That soft sweet strain calls back those days once more,
And while its lostest breathings richly float,
Some long-lost feeling lives in every note.
Oh! were I blest as I of old was blest,
These sounds might not distract the awakened breast;
Then, then might I those strains untortured drink:
But now each note seems an electric link
To bind my present to my shadowy past,
With sweet, sweet shock, that makes me shrink aghast.
Not only floats this strain! 't the haunted air,
The Music of old Memories trembles there:
Aye—in the pale blue haunted air around
There floats a Music far past that of Sound!
And for awhile its power triumphant flings
Beauty, and Joy, and Glory o'er all things!
Yet a pale Beauty—faint, and vague, and strange,
A melancholy Joy, and full of change;
And a most shadowy Glory, such as dwells
Round setting suns that smile their last farewells
Mid gathering clouds, which gloomily forestall
The approach of Night, and weave Day's funeral-pall—
Oh! thou sweet Strain I heard and loved of yore,
Wake these vain Memories of the past no more!

A Royal Dream of the Ninth of November, by the Wooden Spoon.—Here is a lively rhymester, aspiring enough in his slumbers to fancy himself the Lady of the Guildhall fête, and sufficiently pleased with his vision, on awaking, to lay it before the public. Of course, there is not much to be said in praise or blame of such a trifle of the moment—two fragments will show its texture:—

Well, forth we go,
In state, from our palace at Picnic,
Through St. James's, and down the Strand,
Where the windows were crowded, on either hand,
With bright-eyed dames, and gay cavaliers,
Who, strange to say, though all in *à l'air*,
Made the welkin ring with their loyal cheers.
While itinerant vendors of various wares,
With their portable shops,
Cried "Peppermint drops,"
"Victoria medals," and "Penny cigars."
The great *Unwashed* never looked so clean;
For they, in honour of England's hope,
That morning laid out an estate in soap;
Long and stout
Was their gallant shout,
"Long live Victoria, Britain's Queen!"

It chanced that, as into the hall we went,
There fell from our dress a rich ornament,
Which being, alas!
As brittle as glass,
Was shivered, of course, into twenty sections;
And thus jewels fine,
From Golconda's mine,
Were rolling, like *bon-bons*, in all directions.
We were terribly vexed, but did not look glum,
Inasmuch as 'twould scarcely a queen become;
So we smiled, as in sport,
And exclaimed "N'importe!"
But we made a vow that the thoughtless jade,
Who better should fasten our pins and buckles,
Should get, for her pains, a smart rap on the knuckles,
That such careless tricks might no more be played.
By good luck, ere we quitted the festive board,
Our truant jewels were all restored,
As perfect and bright as our jeweller mounted them;
Not a stone was missing, for Sutherland counted them.

Camus on the Teeth of Wheels.—Under this very unpromising title, we have a very beautiful specimen of mathematical analysis applied to mechanical science, worthy of a scholar like Camus, who, at the early age of twelve years, gave lectures on mathematics at Paris. The additions by the editor are valuable,—especially his complete investigation of the proper generating circle of the epicycloid for forming the teeth of wheels.

Walford's Book of Psalms.—The translation corrects many errors in the authorized version, but the notes seem to carry the spiritualizing of simple passages to a dangerous extent.

The Antiquities of Athens.—This little volume contains no less than seventy plates,—including plans, sections, elevations, and details,—selected and reduced from the great work of Stuart, together with accompanying descriptions. It cannot fail to do good service, by spreading abroad a knowledge of the true principles of the beautiful in architecture.

Bennett's Geometrical Illustrations.—This is a very useful guide to architects and artists, for altering the dimensions of figures in a given ratio, or changing one figure into another of the same area.

The Gospel History of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, by Lucy Barton, with a preface by Bernard Barton.—We have always preferred, for the use of the young, the Bible in its integrity and simplicity, to any new version. Lucy Barton, however, has here produced one of the best books of the kind we remember to have seen; her narrative is plain and graceful, and written in a reverential spirit. Some of the beautiful engravings which formerly illustrated the *Iris*, appear once again in this volume.

A Visit to the British Museum.—Intended, we presume, to interest young persons, and inform the uninformed. The book is neatly got up, and prettily illustrated, and we hope it may serve the purpose intended, but we doubt it. Both young and old dislike the form of question and answer—a plain straightforward narrative would have answered better.

The Juvenile Budget, by Mrs. S. C. Hall.—These stories are chiefly collected from the *Juvenile Forget-Me-Not*, and long since received our word of commendation; but thus collected, and illustrated, they form a very pretty and pleasant volume, and will be a most welcome present to our young friends.

Investigation, or Travels in the Boudoir, by Caroline A. Halsted.—This is a pleasant, useful book for the young, and, independent of its own value, may be accepted as a hint by parents who educate their children at home, how to instruct, by means of the thousand objects of daily life assembled around them, the real nature and origin of which are in many cases but little understood.

Tales about Wales.—The first edition of this little book, which, it appears, was intended for a companion to Scott's 'Tales of a Grandfather,' seems to have escaped us. Captain Hall has edited the work, and in an amusing preface explicitly sets forth to what extent his cares over it have extended; he contrives, too, with his usual skill, to interest us in what interests him, the fortunes and success of its authoress.

Bible Quadrupeds, with 16 engravings, by S. Williams.—This is the first of a series of little volumes illustrative of the Natural History of the Bible, to be followed by one on Birds, and another on Botany. On the whole we have been pleased with it—the design is good, the illustrations are good, and the work well written.

Elements of Chemistry, &c., by Thomas Graham. Part I., containing Heat, Light, and Chemical Nomenclature and Notation.—*A Catechism of Chemistry*, by Hugo Reid.—*Chemical Recreations*.—Part I., Chemical Manipulation, and Analysis of the Blow-pipe.—*Introduction to Chemistry*, translated from the German of Dr. Justus Liebig.—We have so recently been called on to notice elementary works on chemistry, that we may be excused, "at this late period of the session," from entering into any elaborate observations on the present occasion. Fortunately, chemistry is one of those subjects which afford a field neither for passion and prejudice, nor for mystery and humbug. Its facts are closely connected with the "best interests" of the pocket; and no error can be committed respecting them, that may not turn out exceedingly expensive in its consequences: its teachers, therefore, may be safely left to find their

level in the market. Of the three works whose titles stand at the head of this notice, that of Mr. Graham is remarkable for lucid simplicity, and that absence of exaggerated pretension, which might have been excused in consideration of the high reputation of its author. It is the work of one used to teach, and to take a strict account of his own ideas, before he attempts to communicate them to others. It is probably intended as a class book—and if so, it is well adapted to its specific purpose. We shall look forward, with pleasure, to the appearance of the succeeding numbers. The 'Catechism of Chemistry' is also the production of one advantageously known as a popular lecturer, and as a valuable agent in the great attempt to introduce natural philosophy into the common course of instruction for youth. It is equally remarkable for brevity and perspicuity; and, if employed, as such works should be, not for the acquirement, but for the fixation of ideas, as a book of reference and correction, it will prove a cheap benefaction to junior students. The 'Chemical Recreations' has pretensions peculiarly its own. Besides the usual information concerning the practical details of chemical manipulation, it professes to teach improvements in the economy and application of apparatus. To this subject, the author says that he has been led by the commendations he has received of "some new chemical apparatus, of which, in a species of chemicocommercial experiments, I have superintended the manufacture, with an endeavour so to combine and organize it, as to reduce the expense of apparatus to such a degree, as to make the introduction of chemical tuition into schools no longer to be dreaded by teachers, as they have hitherto dreaded it, as a certain source of pecuniary loss." It is only necessary to add, on the same authority, that the amendments introduced into the present edition "are to such an extent, and of such a character, as to constitute a new work." The object here proposed is one well worthy the consideration of those engaged in the advocacy of national education. The annexation of a succinct and economical chemical apparatus to every establishment for the education of artisans, is a desideratum, if not an absolute necessity, to the accomplishment of the scheme proposed by the best judges of the subject. The habitual love of order and arrangement among the Germans is evident in Dr. Liebig's work, and these are advantages by which the student must benefit.

Bryce's Algebra.—The arrangement of the rules in this treatise is simple and perspicuous, and the examples are well selected.

Reiner's Lessons on Form.—This is a very good introduction to geometry, written on Pestalozzi's system. The plan has stood the test of experience, and we have ourselves proved its efficacy.

Bachhoffer's Chemistry applied to the Fine Arts.—A description of the chemical composition and mode of manufacturing pigments for artists.

The Liverpool and Birmingham Railway Companion.—A faithful and carefully-executed manual, and it is all the more needful for the traveller to know what lies on either hand of the path on which he journeys, now that he is whirled along at a rate which hinders him from making any very deliberate observations for himself. The times of starting &c. are here duly set forth.

Clarke and Lewis's Parliamentary and Newspaper List.—contains a list of the Members of the House of Commons, and of the English, Irish, and Scotch papers. The political tendency of the Members, and of the papers, is shown at a glance—the Conservatives being printed in blue ink, the Liberals in red ink, and the unattached, as they may be called, in black. It may be had either on a broad sheet for an office, or on canvas folded like a map.

New South Wales.—The interest which the public take in our colonies is general, and not special; many questions therefore, though of great local importance, are not likely to awaken attention here beyond the walls of parliament, and we cannot consent to keep such subjects alive by discussions as endless as publications on them. For the information of those who are particularly interested, we may mention as among the more important works lately issued, 'New South Wales, its present State and future Prospects; being a Statement, with Documentary Evidence, submitted in support of Petitions to His Majesty and Parlia-

ment.—'The Felony of New South Wales,' 'Transportation and Colonization,' by Dr. Lang, 'On Abolishing Transportation,' by S. Bannister, and the 'Second Report on the Western Australian Association.'

Natural History.—This is a subject we do not like to touch on—speaking from experience, we should say, the writers on it are pre-eminently the *genus irritabile*. There was our first venture with Mr. Rennie, but he is forgotten—after that came Captain Brown, and the Miscellany—then Mr. Swainson, a man of undoubted ability, though of overbearing pretension, somewhat troubled with crotchets, bad Latin, and worse temper; and in truth the writers appear to have an equal dislike of our criticism, and they or their publishers now insist on informing us what we ought to say. Thus, we sometime since received a copy of a *Natural History*, by the Rev. W. Tiler, accompanied by a note signed "R. Aked," in which the writer obligingly observed, "You may safely say of the work, that it is the neatest and cheapest of the kind ever offered to the public: it may be recommended as a class-book for schools, and as being well adapted for Sunday school libraries." We have since been favoured with three pages of criticism and commentary from the publishers of *Macgillivray's British Birds*, who assure us that the work is "more original and very superior to any other work in the language"—that "extracts from his popular account of the habits of the birds would be very interesting to the Journal reader, as well as extracts from his 'Lessons'"; that "it is really the only work from which a student can obtain a correct knowledge of ornithology, and the minute descriptions must interest men of science." Now we were much inclined to offer a modest testimony to the ability of Mr. Macgillivray, although we should assuredly have reproved that arrogant assumption of superiority, which is but too evident throughout his work; and to have acknowledged the zeal, perseverance, and

ability, with which he has pursued his subject, and the value of his descriptions of anatomical and physiological structure; but after reading this letter, we gave up the idea in despair of doing justice to a work "superior to any in the language."

Progress of Publication.—Of works heretofore noticed as in course of publication, we may mention as now complete, *Martin's British Colonial Library*, in ten cheap volumes, and *Bell's British Quadrupeds*, in one—this work, however, though complete in itself, forms part of a series, to be worthily continued by *Yarrell's British Birds*, which is now in course of publication. The eighth volume of Mr. Smith's *Catalogue Raisonné* has also been lately published, and contains notices of the works of Nicholas Poussin, Claude Lorraine, and Greuze: it will be completed by a supplementary volume, to contain notices of such pictures as have come under observation during its progress.

List of New Books.—Stanley's *History of Birds*, new edit. 2 vols. 12mo. 7s. cl.—Young Ladies' Friend, new edit. 12mo. 3s. 6d. cl.—Powell's *Connexion of Natural and Divine Truth*, demy 8vo. 9s. bds.—Female Efforts Encouraged, fc. 2s. 6d. cl.—Biddulph's *Plain Sermons*, 1st series, 3rd edit. 12mo. 3s. cl.—James's *Life and Times of Louis XIV.*, 2 vols. 8vo. 29s. cl.—Love, by the Authoress of 'Filiation,' 3 vols. post 8vo. 31s. 6d. bds.—Cooper's *Sketches from Nature*, imp. 4to. mor. 31s. 6d. hf-bd.—Abercrombie's *Intellectual Powers*, new edit. post 8vo. 8s. 6d. bds.—Barrow's *Life and Correspondence of Admiral Earl Howe*, with Portraits and Fac-similes, post 8vo. 12s. cl.—Powell on Wills, 2nd edit. 12mo. 4s. bds.—Anglo-India; Social, Moral, and Political, 3 vols. post 8vo. 27s.—Illustrations of the History and Practices of the Thugs, 8vo. 15s.—East India Register, 1838, 10s.—Dick's *Celestial Scenery*, 12mo. 10s. 6d. cl.—Memorial from a Christian Friend, 64mo. 1s. 6d. silk.—Lockhart's *Life of Sir Walter Scott*, Vol. VI., 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl.—Divine Emblems after the Fashion of Quarle, with Etchings, 12mo. 4s. 6d. cl.—Carlike on the Divine Origin, &c. of the Holy Scriptures—Woolhouse's Supplement to every Almanack, with Chart of the Paths of the Planets, for 1838, 4to. swd. 3s.—Rever's *Rose Amateur's Guide*, roy. 8vo. 5s. 6d. bds.—Lardner's *Cabinet Cyclopædia*, Vol. XCIII. (Animals in Menageries, by Swainson), 6s.

NEW YEAR'S SONG.

Waken, Song! while bright and high
Ancient Winter's bowl is crowned;
Come, true hearts! his wrath defy,
While a noble pledge goes round.
By our gallant fathers gone,
Here, to guard a maiden's throne,
Vow we arms of manhood stout,
Hearts, that shall like swords flash out,—
If but evil think to stain
With one wrong her gentle reign;
Come, with loud and loving cheer
Wish our Queen a blithe new year!
Bounteous stars! with powerful spell,
For a nation's hope, combine,
All the precious gifts which dwell
In the field—the flood—the mine.
Spring, be kind!—she loveth flowers—
Cherish hers with sweetest showers;
Summer, from thy mellowed horn,
Paint her fruits, and gild her corn;
Teeming garden, loaded wain,
Symbol forth her prosperous reign;
Earth, and Air, and Ocean, hear!
Give our Queen a rich new year!
Shield her, saints! Old England's crown
Decks her brow—no hauble gay;
All the joys to girlhood known
Left her—twas but yesterday!
King of Kings! her daily trust,
Anchor on the pure and just,
And in visions round her bed,
Lead, by night, the sainted dead:
Thus with guardian power ordain,
Straight toward Heaven, her glorious reign.
Guide, and Lord, and Father, hear!
Give our Queen a good new year!

H. F. CHORLEY.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Berlin.

CHARLOTTENBERG, a royal casino, about three miles out of town, would be a pleasant no less than a pretty drive through the *Thiergarten*, but that this monarchical grove is turned into a nursery of stinging gnats by pools almost as thick as tannets together, and as little aromatic: were we to judge from the hue of these Stygian puddles and the Spree, heaven must rain coal-wash here as it does at Wolverhampton. You are posed to divine the state-reason (everything is matter of police in Prussia—the very grass, I believe, has a passport for appearing in the country, which makes it so scarce) that encourages such a source of contagion, and keeps a standing plague of frogs and flies, which some few cartloads of dust would quell, to annoy the people. Whatever it be, the like system seems to prevail throughout Prussia: from Cologne to Berlin itself inclusive, every town deserves the name and reputation of *Auld Reekie*, their sewers lying always open as mountain-rivulets, but smelling to heaven far less freshly; their effluvia would poison its healthfullest gales did they bear the very breath of life. Cholera and consumption are in every kennel. But Berlin, forsooth, is flat, and no way to drain it! were there a will, there would be not one, but one thousand ways. At Charlottenberg we find a little of the same Mad-Tom propensity to green-mantled pools; several beset the grounds which, although free to the public, must be rendered by this means, instead of an agreeable resort for human creatures, an elysium only for reptiles. One has to scratch like a Lazarus, in lieu of meditating like a Plato. The casino, a kind of cottage-palace, rustic enough: the gardens of as much loveliness as tall trees, fresh-blooming flowers, and plentiful foliage, when left pretty much at liberty, are sure to produce. But there is a solemn and a sacred air about this spot that whispers to your heart the presence of something which hallows it; here indeed may be said to exist the *White Lady* whom legends have attached to the House of Brandenburg—no messenger of death, however, no fantastic vision—the spirit of what was once living greatness, goodness, and beauty, haunts her former retreat; the shade of the unfortunate LOUISE still continues to wander through these bowers, imparting a deeper silence, a mystery more dim, to their seclusion. In one of their quietest recesses is her image and her

Meteorological Observations made at the Apartments of the Royal Society, Somerset House, for 37 successive hours, commencing 6 A.M. of the 21st of December, 1837, and ending 6 P.M. of the following day.

(Greenwich mean time.)

By Mr. J. D. ROBERTSON, Assistant Secretary, Royal Society.

Hours of Observation.	Barom. corrected. Faint Glass.	Barom. corrected. Crown Glass.	Atmos. Ther.	Extern. Ther.	Old Standard Barom.	Atmos. Ther.	Difference of Wet & Dry Bulb Ther.	Dew Point.	Rain in Inches.	Wind.	REMARKS.
6 A.M.	29.706	29.698	48.6	42.7	29.746	48.7	02.5	42		N	Overcast—very high wind.
7 ..	29.761	29.753	48.8	42.3	29.798	48.7	03.0	44		N	(Dark broken clouds bending their course very rapidly towards the S.)
8 ..	29.840	29.832	48.5	42.4	29.877	48.5	02.8	40		N	Overcast—high wind.
9 ..	29.917	29.907	48.3	42.2	29.948	48.3	02.6	42		N	Cloudy—high wind.
10 ..	29.972	29.962	48.3	42.5	30.006	48.3	02.9	42		N	Drizzle ditto.
11 ..	30.020	30.012	48.4	42.8	30.061	48.4	03.2	40		N	Drizzle ditto.
12 ..	30.034	30.026	48.4	42.7	30.075	48.4	03.3	41		N	Heavy broken clouds—brisk wind.
1 P.M.	30.059	30.051	48.4	43.2	30.107	48.5	04.1	40		NNE	Fine—light clouds with brisk wind.
2 ..	30.074	30.066	48.2	43.4	30.113	48.3	04.0	42		NNE	Lightly overcast—brisk wind.
3 ..	30.113	30.103	47.7	43.0	30.148	48.0	03.4	41		NNE	Drizzle ditto.
4 ..	30.134	30.124	47.5	42.7	30.172	47.6	03.4	41		NNE	Drizzle ditto.
5 ..	30.208	30.200	47.3	42.6	30.247	47.3	03.8	41		NNE	Drizzle ditto.
6 ..	30.222	30.210	47.4	42.3	30.255	47.4	03.0	41		NE	Drizzle ditto.
7 ..	30.162	30.152	47.3	41.6	30.198	47.3	03.2	42			Drizzle ditto.
8 ..	30.170	30.162	47.5	41.2	30.208	47.3	02.6	45			Drizzle ditto.
9 ..	30.198	30.188	47.3	41.0	30.233	47.3	02.2	45			Drizzle ditto.
10 ..	30.226	30.214	47.3	42.3	30.261	47.0	02.8	50			Drizzle ditto.
11 ..	30.220	30.210	47.3	42.2	30.251	47.3	02.8	48			Drizzle ditto.
12 ..	30.195	30.187	48.4	42.0	30.235	47.6	02.5	44			Drizzle ditto.
1 A.M.	30.186	30.176	48.2	41.8	30.220	47.6	02.6	46			Drizzle ditto.
2 ..	30.170	30.160	48.2	41.7	30.204	47.7	02.3	41			Drizzle ditto.
3 ..	30.153	30.143	48.0	41.5	30.196	47.7	02.2	42			Drizzle ditto.
4 ..	30.133	30.125	48.0	41.8	30.170	47.7	02.6	43			Drizzle ditto.
5 ..	30.112	30.104	48.0	42.3	30.148	47.9	02.6	45			Drizzle ditto.
6 ..	30.090	30.080	48.3	42.7	30.126	48.0	02.3	44		S	Drizzle—wind somewhat abated.
7 ..	30.076	30.070	48.3	43.2	30.117	48.3	02.1	43		SSW	Drizzle—light wind.
8 ..	30.063	30.055	48.6	44.0	30.107	48.5	02.2	45		SSW	Cloudy—light wind.
9 ..	30.051	30.045	48.7	44.9	30.095	48.6	02.1	44		SSW	Drizzle ditto.
10 ..	30.040	30.030	49.0	45.7	30.083	49.0	01.6	46		SSW	Drizzle ditto.
11 ..	30.016	30.006	50.0	46.8	30.067	50.2	01.8	47		SSW	Overcast—very fine rain—light brisk wind
12 ..	29.991	29.983	50.2	47.0	30.041	50.4	01.5	46		SSW	Drizzle ditto ditto.
1 P.M.	29.966	29.956	49.8	47.6	30.014	50.3	01.1	46		SW	Drizzle ditto ditto.
2 ..	29.940	29.932	49.7	48.7	29.990	50.0	01.5	47		SW	Drizzle ditto ditto.
3 ..	29.923	29.913	49.6	48.7	29.972	50.0	01.5	48		SW	Overcast—deposition—light wind.
4 ..	29.905	29.895	49.7	49.2	29.948	50.2	01.1	50		S	Drizzle—light brisk wind.
5 ..	29.896	29.884	49.8	49.9	29.944	50.2	01.0	51		S	Drizzle ditto.
6 ..	29.888	29.882	49.9	50.5	29.930	50.3	01.3	50		S	Drizzle ditto.
	30.049	30.040	48.5	43.9	30.089	48.4	02.5	44			

Note.—The Barometer stood, the evening previous to the commencing of the Observations, as follows (at 9 P.M.): Faint Glass, 29.302; Crown Glass, 29.296; Old Barometer, 29.328.

On the 18th, 19th, and 20th instant, there were very heavy gales accompanied with rain.

shrine. Hither her subjects come on continual pilgrimage to pay their tribute of reverence, pity, and affection: hither comes every traveller whose heart ever bled with human sympathy, or pulse throbbed with a chivalrous feeling, or even whose fancy glowed with romantic interest. Down a broad majestic walk, lined by willows, cypresses, and other mournful trees, you proceed to a small temple of Doric simplicity, and beautiful material—gray marble-like granite, which takes a clear bright polish, into which you can see as into a mirror. Within this little sequestered fane lies the monument of Queen Louisa, but not her tomb, for by a practical epigram, whose irony was no doubt unintended, she who died of sorrow and deep-felt cares, is buried at *Sans Souci*! The monument, wholly marble, consists of an altar, covered with a white pall, on which reclines, at full length, a female figure of heroic size: her arms are folded, her legs crossed, her head turned a little to the right side on a pillow, in the attitude and composure of sleep. This is Rauch's celebrated statue of the late Queen. While ruminating over the memorial and its origin, I could not help but murmur to myself the famous lines on Michaelangelo's statue (*Grato m'è il sonno, &c.*) which seemed to have found a real application here—

Grateful to me is sleep—the sleep of stone
Yet more!—Whilst Injury and Shame endure,
To see, to feel them not is gain secure:
Wherefore awake me not—sigh and pass on!

It is almost like dismembering the dead to analyze the statue; but study of art being so much the object of my tour, I am driven to commit the sacrilege. As a work, then, of so much renown, this statue disappointed me: it appears by no means to deserve its laurels; nor to divide the palm of modern German sculpture with Dannecker's *Ariadne*, but to leave it whole upon her brow. Although the face be pretty and placid, there is nothing about it of particular interest—nothing characteristic of the person, or suggestive of her story—nothing to mark the dignity of the Queen, save hatchments round the altar, her expression being inanimate, and her form inelegant: yet both are *ideal* to a certain degree. That hand lying beneath her left breast may have been designed as significant of her fate—heart-brokenness; and if so, there would be a sentiment in the figure, which otherwise has none: but dilettantes are apt to invent merits as well as overlook them. Again, the head lies ill at ease, the neck is stiff, the drapery broken up like a sheaf well threshed. Any schoolgirl could have told the sculptor that to cross the legs rather became a country boyden than a lady, or, if he call this but a Chesterfield critique, let him consult Winckelman, who pronounces such an attitude only fit for clowns and clownish divinities. Minute apart, the statue leaves no charm upon the mind, tends instead to dissolve what the visitor came with: any interest felt in beholding the figure is derived from the original and her story. I must be forgiven this saturnine avowal of my disappointment: expectation once raised cannot be trifled with. Far better than this statue is the one, also by Rauch, at *Sans Souci*, because few of the above objections hold against a mere fac-simile of nature: indeed, so closely has the sculptor followed her lines, that his clay-model seems a cast taken after death, and his statue the body itself become stone. To judge from this portrait, Louisa could have had little of the romantic or regal bearing which imagination bestows on her: plump, buxom, and comfortable, with much sweetness of expression, and some beauty, she has a *Gretchen* air about her rounded forms and snug habiliments—is scarce a *Perdita*, for mingled royalty and rusticity, but at most a Queen of the May. Her bust, however, taken in earlier years, looks decidedly pensive and presageful of sorrow; it strikes at once as that of a person to whom keen feelings would likely enough prove daggers, which on any great misfortune would be sure to go through her heart.

Of Rauch's three portrait-statues in the Linden Street, I must speak with less praise: they do credit indeed to the French or theatrical style of sculpture, but this is a sinister compliment—no style can be worse. *Blücher* especially belongs to the school of those statues which disfigured by their banditti looks and bombastic demeanour a certain Parisian bridge, and which a late sense of their exquisite absurdity has removed, I hope to the limekiln. *Maréchal*

Bulow and *Scharnhorst* are in a tamer style, without being in a much purer. The reliefs on the three pedestals are clever. These statues front the *Hauptwache*, or guardhouse, a small piece of architecture by Schinkel; Tuscanising-Doric, almost as simple in composition as a die, yet novel and very pretty. Schinkel's Bridge near at hand is also peculiarly elegant; the parapets are bronze screens of graceful arabesque openwork, between polished supports of granite, quite as precious a material. One huge mass of this substance, called the *Margrave-Stone*, and found not far from Berlin, where a large pebble is a *lusus nature*, has been hollowed into a cup, and placed before the Museum: it is twenty-two feet diameter, and for shape as clumsy as the bowl which Polyphemus scooped out of a maple log after he had lost his eye: it is all bottom and no brim, while every artist more cunning in his trade than a blind Cyclops must be aware that the grandeur and elegance of such a vase depends mainly on the ample curvature of the lip, just as a classical fabric depends for the same qualities on the projection and fine overlapping of its cornice. *Tieck*, brother of the poet, is a sculptor of name likewise: he has, conjointly with Rauch, produced the various large reliefs and roof statues which decorate Schinkel's new structures. I did not attempt any particular examination of them, for that would have required time and a telescope; but was satisfied in making one general remark upon those compositions which embellish the tympanum, or triangular sunk panels of the pediments. These reliefs universally want what is called *breadth* of style, massiveness, and masses—therefore want effect: they are so little raised from the background, or, when raised, are so frittered into many and small parts, that were they wrought by Prometheus himself, a spectator beneath would pass them over like so much flagree incrustation. The Louvre quadrangle is a good neighbouring instance of this error: its walls covered with and cut up into flat multilinear reliefs, whose numberless edges catch the flying colly, seem less to be sculptured there than scribbled. Surely we might learn a better principle of composition for spaces so distant, from the great Elgin relief which filled the pediment of the Parthenon? Large-moulded figures, few, and simply combined, either clear of each other, or when close (as are the *Fates*) making one broad mass—give that group its pre-eminent grandeur, and must have rendered it, even at more than its due height, impressive as a promontory: yet the Greeks prepared this for a station that may well be termed low in comparison with our elevated pediments! The new *Schauspiel-haus*, or theatre, stands on a basement lofty enough for carriages to drive through a vault running under the portico floor, and over this tall portico rises another as façade to the uppermost gable; there are two wing-porticos likewise as high as the front one: each of the four has a pediment, and you may guess the second is somewhat aerial: nevertheless the reliefs in all are as meagre and unmassed, in some as crowded, intricate, and wire-drawn, as if they were to be seen at nose-level! What results? Meanness and unintelligibility. They appear to be placed there for the sole purpose of arresting smut and smoke-dust with their sharp contours and multitude of members. I should not have dwelt so long on this subject, but that the true principle of pedimental decoration seems to have been forgotten by unanimous consent of modern sculptors, though the Elgin example has set it close before their eyes for at least a quarter of a century. For all their effectiveness, might not the reliefs on Buckingham Palace be put with equal judgment as many feet under as they are above the ground? The *Schauspiel-haus* itself does not come by any means among M. Schinkel's chefs-d'œuvre: its Ionic portico repeats, in six columns, the Erechtheion type of his Museum somewhat varied, and may be pronounced handsome: but the whole theatre is here: all the rest is mean, and has the look of a manufactory, from every surface being made a mere riddle of narrow windows; while the upper portico, springing out of the roof, gives the idea of one house on top of another. Hence perhaps it is, that the two old crumbling churches in the same piazza, with their bee-bottomed cupolas and porticos of the pseudo-classic style, are more august from their massiveness and breadth of details than the *Schauspiel-haus* between them, shining with all the freshness and radiance of its new

creation. I believe the internal economy to be better: a large concert-room has obtained "golden opinions from all sorts of people," so I must not offer any *brazen* opinion of mine about it. Punning aside, let me once more entreat you will take the remarks made in these letters as mere impressions of a dilettante, who has no claim whatever to set up as a *lex loquens* or profound critic: if some few of them contain their own proofs, drawn from undeniable general principles, they carry their credentials along with them; for all the rest—the innumerable rest—I demand only the belief that they were formed with care and sincerity to the best of my power, and are put forth because no person more competent seems of a mind to furnish information on the subject worthier public acceptance. Would foreign artists prefer being not known at all among us, to being known as somewhat less than Michaelangelos and Raffaeles?

I have a thoroughly old English admiration for those solid, comfortable, red-brick houses, at present out of fashion: their general warmth of tone, when properly relieved by white edgings and facings, has a Venetian effect of colour, a rich sombreness without dulness, genial and grateful to the eye. Few such houses remain in London, having almost everywhere given place to those of pale brick or plaster, which the ladies of Pancras and Little Paddington think so genteel. At Berlin, hitherto a city of universal plaster, M. Schinkel has ventured to raise two public edifices of red brick: it is not so mellow a red as ours, but rather bright and harsh; he forgot, moreover, what Wren never neglected, to inlay it with white along the dominant lines; consequently, his *Architectural Institute* and *New Church* have a fierce glare about them, like that of a furnace in which embers are still glowing. The former edifice, or *Bau-Schule*, is very original and very elegant: a lofty parallelopiped, pierced with windows of triple lights, battled atop, and every band, architrave, panel on the four sides, ornamented to profusion with appropriate devices in brick paste—a composition due likewise to the same artist. I thought the battlement rather light, resembling one of cast-iron, which perhaps it is, as the famous Berlin foundry often comes in aid of the Fine Arts throughout Prussia. Nor could I well understand the gist of a *double cornice*, for if the use of the cornice be to deliver the drip, what use is the under one? Perhaps M. Schinkel could give a better reason than his desire to be original. He possesses a genius of great expansion—all the devices above-said are fruit of his own fancy: he is a sculptor also, and a painter, several of his works in marble and colours adorning the Institute saloons. Here, too, I was shown his designs for a set of *Frescoes* to embellish the vestibule of his Museum. They consist of six finished water-colour drawings, full of German ingenuity and refinement—perhaps too much so: their general subject, the Progress of Civilization. These works are all well drawn and painted—better coloured, likewise, than most German: the composition is too multifarious, needing simplicity, breadth, and masses, whence I fear it may prove confused and unimpressive. Here are more figures to be painted on a few small panels, than fill the whole gable-end of the Sistine Chapel!

M. Schinkel's universalism displays itself further in the New Church, a Gothic construction, of monotonous red-brick likewise. It has a pentagonal choir, with lancet windows; nave windows of four lights, with two trefoils and one cinquefoiled above to form the head, no transom; at the West front two Towers. Within, the nave has corridor-aisles, one each side; its clustered pilasters are carried up plain to their rich capitals; and the handsomely-groined roof shows its pink bricking between the ribs, all the rest of the interior being coated with cement. Were it my cue to adopt the common cant of criticism, I should declare this work "very creditable to the architect," "a revival of the antique style in all its purity and perfection;" but I cannot prevail upon myself to run the subject through a gauntlet of such fulsome superficialities. From this specimen, M. Schinkel would appear less fortunate in Gothic than in Classic architecture. The whole effect is at once bald and heavy. The towers are too short and small; the archivolts ungraceful, yet not grandiose, from their thickness; the exterior has scarce an or-

ment to give its uniform redness, light and shadow, yet is rather insipid than simple, scarce one ornament except an open parapet, as flimsy as a fish-weir. The apse-windows are lancet, while the nave are equilateral; and there being no side-chapels, wings, or other projections, to divide the one series from the other, this difference of form destroys the symmetry, and becomes offensive. Inside, the windows are recessed perpendicularly and deeply, whence heaviness and dullness ensue, without bringing the mellow gloom so awful in old Gothic churches. I may add another fault of the interior, though not of the architect: a huge altar-piece, of three compartments, in a gilt wainscoting, stops out half the choir from view. Were this showboard burnt, and the choir windows carried down nearer the floor, like those of Cologne or Aix cathedral, a lightness and brilliancy would be obtained, for which at present there is no beauty as substitute. Apropos of this altar-piece, let us take a glance at Painting in the capital of Prussia.

M. Beggass holds the first station here among professors of the art. Said altar-piece is, I believe, his chief boast, and that of this city in matters pictorial. It consists of the *Resurrection* as a centre, with four *Evangelists* on four different panels beside it. These latter are by M. Schadow, and of good design as well as expression, particularly St. John. The centre-piece is itself ill-coloured, and the clear-obscure worse managed; a big, dull, yellow mass of light, in the middle, is no beauty-spot on the picture. Neither can I laud the composition, which has a superfluity of figures, nor the Chief One among them, who stands upon the tomb with a cross so long and so posited that it looks like a leaping-pole. I saw little of the usual continental merit in outline and modelling to make up for all these imperfections. Some clear-obscure figures above the corridor arches, by M. Wach, seemed to me better, though of heathenish conception. A second altar-piece at the *Dom*, by Beggass, is still inferior, though time has done much to soften its harshness by almost blotting it out. There may be other productions which have earned the painter his repute, but their fame was not loud enough in the land to reach my ears. Let me add, that I have seen a portrait or two from his brush, displaying talent for works more humble than altar-pieces.

A certain Consular collection, said to comprise the flower of Prussian cabinet-paintings, gave me no favourable impression about the native genius for this art. Minuteness of workmanship would seem its chief merit—petrifying frigidity of colour its chief defect: that can afford little ground for praise, this congeals every word of commendation which the warmest desire to be polite wrings from the visitor's gratitude. In speaking thus of Prussian pictorial talent, I do not mean to comprehend the *Rhenish School* at Düsseldorf, as it is scarce properly national: indeed, the more tolerable works in this metropolitan collection are by Düsseldorf painters.

I have now mentioned, I think, all the artistic objects which struck me as claiming particular notice—except the *Sing Academy*, a neat classic edifice, whose beauty is just fitted for the shade that screens it from too much exposure; and the *Kreuzberg Monument*, a cast-iron spire of Gothic pinnacles and canopies, studded with statues; pretty enough, and would be more, if the figures did not look determined, by their attitudes, to make it a prodigy; joint-production of Schinkel, Rauch, and others, set upon a suburb hillock, whence you have the best horizontal view of the city, and consecrated to the victims who fell last war in the cause of vengeance and fatherland.

Let me have done with Berlin.—Potsdam is like a west-end parish of it, that edged off from the flowing gutter, called the Spree, to the fresh-breathing stream of the blue, crystalline Havel, about twenty miles distant. Potsdam sewers, however, must still keep up their city connexion, for the smell of the mother-town most generically. Its fine situation could not save it from decadence; it became a desert when the spirit of the great Frederic departed—it has now the blank, bald air of some Egyptian catacomb, which a legion of Belzonis had disinterred from a mountain of sand. All his choicest moveable works of art have been sent to the capital: some of the palaces are imposing, in the bad style

beloved by him; one of the handsomest among his courtier's *hôtels* furnished me with my dinner for half-a-crown. Here is a new Church by Schinkel: it has a good portico, as usual with him, while, as not unfrequent, the body of the structure cuts itself in two by a cornice half way up the height, and thus we have again one house over another, like a hat covering a hat! In the plain lateral elevation, a huge semicircular window, such as that of a Riding School, must comprise all its beauty in its utility; the blind wall would have been handsomer, as a Cyclop's forehead without its eye; at least, to an amateur it seems no felicitous way of varying a blank by making a blot. Probably the plans and drawings of M. Schinkel's fabrics may be familiar to our architects at home, who are competent to rescue them from an injurious charge, though they could not be more reluctant than I am to make it.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

We have little room for gossip this week, and little to say; our whole thoughts and time have been of late occupied in making clear shelves and a clear conscience—in labours not apparent, perhaps, but oppressive—and we now shake hands and part with old *Anno Domini* without much in the way of arrears to upbraid ourselves with. His successor shall of course be welcome; and we may say already, that he comes open-handed like "a true prince," with all the gallant bravery of youth, and something of its prodigality. We have already received Mr. Wilkinson's 'Egyptian Antiquities,' 'Memoirs of Holt the Irish Rebel,' 'A Diary of the Times of George IV.,' the sixth volume of 'The Life of Sir Walter Scott,' Miss Lawrance's 'Memoirs of the Queens of England,' 'Illustrations of the History and Practice of the Thugs,' and other less important works; so that there is good promise for the new year.

Many personal friends, and all who take an interest in geographical discovery, will be happy to hear that Captain Alexander has arrived in town from the Cape, bringing with him the collection of objects in natural history, made during his journey to the northward. A rough outline of his route may be collected from the accounts heretofore published in this journal.—(see pp. 849, 850, 865.)

Sir John Soane's will has been at length proved; and the personal property sworn to be under 140,000*l*. The executors, Sir Francis Chantrey, Sir John Stevenson, and Mr. Higham, have renounced by power of attorney in favour of Mr. Bicknell, named in a codicil as one of the executors, and the will is proved by Mrs. Sally Conduitt, to whom he bequeaths 5000*l*. with a request that she may be buried in the same vault with him. We intended to have given a copy of it, but there are few particulars that would interest the general reader, and we do not think ourselves justified in wasting so much space with merely a wearisome evidence of heartless self-will.

We have just heard from Scotland of a discovery made by Mr. Ambrose Blacklock, Surgeon, of Dumfries, of a cheap and easy method of *transferring* and *reprinting* books, engravings, and lithographs. The importance of such a discovery we need not dwell on. It is well known that with paper newly printed the impression may be transferred to stone merely by the aid of pressure; printer's ink, however, dries so quickly, that unless the transfer be made almost immediately the attempt will fail. But Mr. Blacklock informs us that by a cheap chemical process, which he has discovered, the ink of prints and letter-press, *however old and dry*, may be expeditiously brought into a condition which admits of its being transferred and printed from, without in the slightest degree injuring the original copy; of course the nature of this chemical process is at present a secret, nor have we seen any printed work produced by these means.

Such of our readers as frequent Regent Street must have observed a large pile of building growing up, of late, on the west side, soon after passing Oxford Street, and communicating with one of the houses in Cavendish Square. This, we are informed, is about to be opened as an *Institution for the Advancement of the Arts and Practical Science*, especially in connexion with Agriculture, Manufactures, and other branches of industry; combining, in its results,

—say the projectors,—many of the advantages of the *Ecole Centrale des Arts et Manufactures*, of Paris. The house in Cavendish Square will contain a Reading Room, Library, and accommodation for the meeting of persons feeling an interest in promoting the objects of the Institution, or desirous of acquiring knowledge of such new discoveries as may, from time to time, be made public. To it will be attached the Gallery, now building, which is to be 127 feet long by 40 wide, and well adapted, we are informed, for the exhibition of novel and useful Models and Apparatus illustrative of various branches of Science, and their application to the Arts; with a Laboratory, Experiment Rooms, a Theatre for Lectures, Consultation Rooms for the use of inventors, patentees, persons wishing to make experiments, and persons seeking information on any point of science.

'The Messiah' was performed yesterday week by the Sacred Harmonic Society, and went well—all things being taken into account. But, in the whole effect, that force which belongs to clearness was sadly wanting. This fault may be partly ascribed to the ineligibility of Exeter Hall for musical purposes, —but more largely to the absence of energy and precision on the part of the orchestra.

A new Russian embassy is about to be sent to Khiva and Bokhara. It will be accompanied by several engineers, who are to survey the country between the Caspian and the Oxus, with special reference to the disputed question whether there was an ancient branch of that river which discharged itself into the Caspian Sea. The chief object of the embassy is to negotiate for the liberation of the Russian captives kidnapped by the Tatars, and sold as slaves in Khiva and Bokhara.

NOW EXHIBITING, IN THE EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY, the curious Collection made by the Party recently sent into the Interior of South Africa, by the Cape of Good Hope Association, for exploring Central Africa. Amongst the very many interesting objects are some HUNDREDS of DRAWINGS, and a number of full-sized figures of the different NATIVES in their NATURAL COSTUMES.—Admission, 1*s*. 2*s*. The proceeds to be applied in the promotion of further discovery.

SCIENTIFIC AND LITERARY

STATISTICAL SOCIETY.

Continued from p. 931.

It was stated, that the Education Committee had completed an investigation into five parishes of Westminster—viz. St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, and the four parishes constituting the Strand Union under the Poor Law Act—viz. St. Clement's Danes, St. Mary-le-Strand, St. Paul's, Covent Garden, and the district of the Savoy. The population of these five parishes, according to the census of 1831, was 42,996—viz.

St. Martin's-in-the-Fields	23,732
St. Clement's Danes	11,578
St. Mary-le-Strand	2,052
St. Paul's, Covent Garden	5,203
The Savoy	431

Total..... 42,996

It was remarked as being much to be regretted, that no fair comparison can be instituted between the total population of this district, and the number of children in the schools; first, because the number of inhabitants in the parishes examined has varied very much since the census of 1831, in consequence of the removal and alteration of streets about Charing Cross and the Strand; and, secondly, because a considerable portion of the inhabitants consists of professional gentlemen and superior tradespeople, who send their children into the suburbs, and to more distant parts of the country, for their education.

The total number of schools in the parish of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields is 49.

Of which 41 are day schools,
2 day and Sunday schools,
and 3 Sunday schools.

Of the 44 day schools, 2 are infant schools, 2 receive three or four boarders each, and in 5 instruction is given to a few pupils in the evening.

The number of scholars is 2131; that is, 1043 boys, and 1088 girls.

In St. Clement's Danes there are 34 schools, from 2 of which no reports could be obtained. Of the remainder, 31 are day schools, and 1 a Sunday school. Among the former are, one school receiving a few boarders, one infant school, and 3 schools in which instruction is given in the evening.

The number of scholars is 1116; that is, 473 boys, and 643 girls.

In St. Mary-le-Strand, there are 11 schools, 10 of which are day schools, including 1 for infants, and 1 is a Sunday school.

The scholars amount to 478; that is, 236 boys, and 242 girls.

St. Paul's, Covent Garden, contains 20 schools, 18 of which are day, and 2 are Sunday schools. Among the former are 2 in which a few pupils are boarded, 1 infant school, and 2 in which evening instruction is given.

The number of scholars is 999; that is, 459 boys, and 540 girls.

The district of the Savoy contains only 2 schools, with 46 scholars, one for boys, and the other for girls. Both are attached to the German Lutheran Church, and a large proportion of the scholars are descendants of German ancestors.

The total number of schools in the five parishes is 116, exclusive of 10 evening schools, which are not counted separately from the day schools, to which they are attached; and the number from which reports have been obtained is 114.

Of these, 19 are exclusively for boys, and 13 exclusively for girls, while the remaining 82 contain boys and girls; but in general the proportion of the boys is small, and consists chiefly of children of tender years, few being above 8 years of age.

The total number of children at school is 4770. Of these, 3215 attend day or evening schools only—889 Sunday as well as day schools—and 666 Sunday schools only.

The number of each sex is, of boys, 2243—girls, 2527.

The ages are as follows:—946 are under 5 years of age—3476 between 5 and 15—116 above 15—232 whose ages are unknown.

It appears from the above statements, that the number of children who are receiving daily instruction during about six hours, exclusive of Wednesday and Saturday, which are usually half-holidays, and including Sunday in 889 cases, amounts to 4104.

From this number must be deducted those who attend dame schools, in order to arrive at the real number of those who are receiving what is worthy of the name of instruction.

In the parish of St. Martin's there are 6 schools with endowments.

Of schools partly endowed, there are, in St. Clement's Dances 1—St. Mary-le-Strand 2—St. Paul's, Covent Garden 3—the Savoy 2; amounting in all to 14.

There are 20 schools in the district which have the benefit of collections in the chapels or churches to which they are attached, or in the church of the parish in which they are situated, viz. in St. Martin's-in-the-Fields 6—St. Clement's Dances 3—St. Mary-le-Strand 4—St. Paul's, Covent Garden 5—the Savoy 2.

27 schools are aided by public subscriptions, viz. in St. Martin's-in-the-Fields 11—St. Clement's Dances 4—St. Mary-le-Strand 4—St. Paul's, Covent Garden 6—the Savoy 2.

From the above three sources, endowments, congregational collections, and public subscriptions, 1789 children in day schools, and 666 in Sunday schools, are educated, either wholly or nearly free of expense to their parents, leaving 2305 whose instruction is paid for.

In the district there are nine schools to which lending libraries are attached. In most of these the children are allowed to take the books to their homes, and retain them for a certain time.

In 14 schools the whole or a part of the scholars are clothed; one school, in the parish of St. Paul, has a fund for sick children, and one in St. Martin's has a savings bank.

Under the head of Dame Schools, are classed those in which little more than spelling, reading, and sewing are taught. The whole number of these schools is 21. The number of scholars is 340; of whom 125 are boys, and 215 are girls. There are 130 children below 5 years of age, in nearly equal numbers of either sex; the remaining 210 children are above 5, the greatest age being 12, and the average 7 or 8. Of these 145 are girls, and only 65 are boys.

The condition of these schools is better than those in Manchester and Liverpool. Not any of them are

kept in cellars, but 7 are kept in single rooms used by the mistresses for all the purposes of sleeping, sitting, and cooking. The ventilation depends much on the season of the year. In the winter the parents object to the windows being opened; hence, when the school is full, and there is a fire in the room, the air is highly injurious both to the teacher and children.

The teachers are all females, and, for the most part, advanced in age. Most of them are poor and in great distress. Eight have other occupations, such as needlework, washing, &c.

All but two professed to belong to the Established Church. The average period of their employment in teaching is ten years.

The rate of payment, in most cases, is 4*d.* or 6*d.* a week. The average amount of teachers' earnings is 7*s.* 9*d.* a week. Many complaints were made both by this class of teachers, and by those of schools in a higher class, of the difficulty of obtaining money due for teaching.

All the teachers profess to give religious instruction in the Bible or Testament, and generally in the Church or Watts's catechism. Eight only out of 21 teachers state that they inculcate the moral duties, but the Committee could not ascertain the meaning they attached to the term.

The books are sometimes chosen by the teachers, but often are such as the parents may happen to send; and in almost all the schools of this class, the supply is very deficient. None of the schools within this district, whether of an inferior or better class, have play-grounds or yards for exercising the children. Neither do any of the schools afford instruction in industrial employments of any kind. In many of these schools several of the children had remained from 5 to 7 years. At present the teachers are in general wholly unqualified for their duties, and these schools serve for little more than to keep the children out of danger while their parents are engaged in daily labour.

The next class consists of Day Schools in which, besides reading and sewing, instruction is given in writing, arithmetic, the elements of grammar, taught in most cases from a spelling-book, and sometimes in geography and history, taught imperfectly to a few of the more advanced pupils. In some of the boys' schools are added the elements of geometry and mensuration.

There are 33 schools of this class, 5 of which contain boys only. The remaining 28 receive scholars of both sexes, sometimes in nearly equal proportions.

The total number of children in these common day schools is 784, of whom 402 are boys, and 382 are girls. The average number in each school is 24. Five contain each between 50 and 60, and there are only 2 with fewer than 10 scholars. 178 of the children, in nearly equal proportions of the sexes, are under 5 years of age, and the remaining 606 are between 5 and 15; the average ages of the boys being about 10 or 11, and that of the girls from 7 to 8.

Few of these schools were established before 1830, though many of the teachers have been engaged in schools from 20 to 30 years, and the average time of the whole number is 11 years.

The superiority of these schools over those of the same class in the towns examined by the Manchester Statistical Society is obvious. Not any are reported to be in a dirty condition, the children are reported as being sufficiently orderly. The average size of the rooms is 15 feet by 12, and from 9 to 10 feet in height.

The 5 boys' schools are kept by men, as are 2 of those in which the sexes are mixed; the remaining 26 schools are kept by females.

The payments are made either quarterly, varying from 6*s.* to 20*s.*, or weekly, varying from 3*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*, but averaging about 8*d.*

The information acquired in these schools cannot be said to amount to education; it can have but little effect in expanding the minds of the scholars, in teaching them to observe or to reflect, or in giving them a desire for further knowledge, and it can exercise but little influence in forming their moral characters, beyond what may be produced by the restraint consequent upon attendance at school.

The number of Middling Boys' Schools is only 3, containing 115 scholars; that of middling girls' schools is 17, which contain 395 children, including

89 very young boys. Grammar and geography are professed to be taught in all of these; history in all but 1; drawing in 8, the classics in 2, geometry in 2, mensuration and French in one. The rates of charge in the boys' schools vary from 8*s.* 6*d.* to 21*s.* a quarter, and in the girls' schools from 8*s.* to 31*s.* 6*d.* The 3 conductors of the boys' schools were all educated for the employment, and 8 out of 16 female teachers stated themselves to be similarly qualified.

The school-rooms are clean, and sufficiently ventilated, and the scholars in all are orderly.

Of Superior Schools there are in all 13, containing 525 pupils. In 1, for adults, there are 10 male and 8 female scholars. In 5, confined to boys, there are 249 scholars, of whom all but 12 are between 5 and 15 years of age. Seven are girls' schools, containing 258 pupils, of whom 15 are young boys; 22 of the girls are under 5, and 28 are above 15. In all the boys' schools, besides the subjects already described as taught in the common day schools, instruction is given in the classics; in 3 drawing, geometry, and mensuration are taught, in all French, and in some German and Italian. The terms are from 15*s.* to 3 guineas a quarter.

In all the girls' schools French is taught, and, in some, dancing, Italian, and music. The terms are from 15*s.* to 2 guineas a quarter.

Nine out of the 13 schools were established before the year 1830; 4 out of 5 male teachers, and 4 out of 6 female teachers were educated for the profession, 2 of the former being clergymen. Most of these schools are specially reported to be properly conducted; the teachers qualified for their employment, the children neat in their persons and orderly in their behaviour, and the system of instruction generally good.

There are 10 Evening Schools, all kept by masters of day schools. 2 belong to the class of Superior, 2 to the Middling, and 6 to the Common day schools. They contain 36 male, and 51 female scholars, of whom only 3 also attend day schools. Their ages vary from 8 to 22, and average from 10 to 12. The hours of attendance are generally from 6 to 8 o'clock in the evening.

The subjects taught in these schools are—Reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar, and geography, in all; history, 5; the classics, 1; drawing, 4; geometry, 4; mensuration, 5; book-keeping, 2; algebra, 2. The information acquired in these schools is superior in value to that which is usually obtained in the day schools.

Of Infant Schools there are 5,* containing 660 scholars, of whom 348 are under 5 years of age. The greatest age is 12, and the least is 1½. These schools have all been established since the commencement of the year 1828. All are aided by public subscriptions, and collections in churches or chapels. The scholars pay either 1*d.* or 2*d.* a-week. Reading, arithmetic, grammar, are taught in all; sewing, in 2; writing, 3; geography and scriptural history, 2.

The system of instruction is monitorial and in classes. The books and cards of the Infant School and Sunday School Societies are used. The hours of attendance are the same as in the other day schools.

A Lending Library is attached to two of these schools.

In one about 15 of the children receive clothing on Saturday evening, to be returned on Monday morning. There are 12 Jewish children in this school, and 40 Roman Catholics, chiefly Irish. These schools are, on the whole, well conducted, and are superior in every respect to the dame schools, in which children of the same class and age are instructed.

The number of Sunday Schools is 7, of which 3 are in St. Martin's, 2 in St. Paul's, and 1 in each of the parishes of St. Clement's and St. Mary's. Besides these, there are 2 day schools in St. Martin's parish, in which instruction is also given on Sunday.

The total number of scholars on the books of the 9 schools is 1555, of whom 889 are included among the day scholars, leaving 666 children who receive Sunday instruction only. The average attendance on Sunday is only 1098, or 70 per cent. of the

* One of these schools, at No. 36, St. Martin's-street, is kept in the house formerly occupied by Sir Isaac Newton, whose observatory is still in existence, preserved, it is said, in the same state as during his occupancy.

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number on the books. Of 1336 children, whose ages are stated, all but 150 are between 5 and 15.

5 of these schools are connected with the Established Church, 1 with the Scotch Church, and 3 with congregations of Protestant Dissenters. All are supported by public subscription, aided in six instances by congregational collections, and in one by endowment. The children do not contribute anything. 4 have been established since 1831, and 2 within the present year. The number of teachers in 8 of these schools is 185, or, on an average, 23 to each school. Their services are entirely gratuitous. The total number of classes in the 8 schools is 104; the proportion, therefore, of the teachers is 9 to 5 classes. The instruction is confined to reading the Scriptures for the space of about 3 hours. In the Bible History is taught. In 3 a few of the most deserving of the children are taught writing or arithmetic, or both, in the evening of one or two days in the week.

Of Parochial Schools there are 7; 3 of which are in St. Martin's, 2 in St. Mary's, and 1 in each of the parishes of St. Paul's and St. Clement's. Of 7 remaining schools, 2 are connected with the British and Foreign Society, 1 with the Scotch Church, and 2 with the German Lutheran Church; 1 is a Jewish school, and 1 is founded upon the endowment of Archbishop Tennison. The total number of scholars is 1,201, of whom 299 are taught gratuitously, and 832 for a sum not exceeding 44*l.*, and in most cases only 1*d.* a week. Some of these schools are of ancient date, having been established at the close of the seventeenth century. 12 have endowments; all are aided by public subscriptions, and 10 by collections in churches and chapels.

The instruction is chiefly confined to reading, writing, and arithmetic, with sewing in the girls' schools; but in the 2 British and Foreign schools the Jewish, the German, and Archbishop Tennison's schools, grammar, geography, and history are added. In the last-mentioned school, the course of instruction is similar to that in public grammar schools, and is founded upon the Eton system. The monitorial system is followed in 9 schools, combined with teaching in classes or individual instruction, or with both.

King's College and school, and a military school in St. George's Barracks, St. Martin's parish, the latter containing 65 children, and 50 adult soldiers, were briefly described, but were not considered as belonging exclusively to this district.

Although a comparison with Manchester and Liverpool is favourable to this district, yet, it would be wrong to suppose, that the means of education which it contains are adequate, either in amount or quality, to the moral and intellectual wants of the population.

The following is a summary view of the real state of education in this district:—

The total number of children at school is 4770. Of these 666 are Sunday scholars only, but although some advantages attend this kind of instruction, among which may be mentioned the observance of religious duties, and restraint from idleness and profligacy on the Sabbath; the good feeling produced between the children and their teachers, and the encouragement to good conduct, afforded by example and exhortation; yet, the scholars cannot be said to receive education, and should be deducted from the gross number.

With these must be included the children in Dame Schools, where the instruction does not extend beyond spelling, a little reading badly acquired, and a little sewing. These schools are not even viewed as seminaries for instruction, but as places of safe custody for the children, during the hours when their parents are engaged in daily labour. The number in these schools is 340.

Thus there remain only 3764 children, who acquire any degree of really useful and intellectual instruction.

Of these 784 attend common day schools, in which they obtain a very imperfect knowledge of reading, writing, and arithmetic, with but little else. The system of teaching is almost always mechanical, cramping the natural energies of the mind, creating a distaste for study, and for the self-acquirement of knowledge in after years, and entirely neglecting the producing of any religious or moral influence over the dispositions and character of the pupils.

There are 510 children in the middling class of schools, who with 87 in the evening schools, acquire a further knowledge of grammar, history, and geography, in an imperfect and slovenly manner; and 525 in the superior schools, who, at least, are allowed the opportunity of obtaining a good general education. But in many of these, the mode of teaching would admit of much improvement.

The children in infant schools are classed among those receiving instruction, because they actually obtain as much as is suited to their years, and because they are acquiring habits of regularity, order, and attention, which will afterwards qualify them for imbibing a higher degree of knowledge, with ease and advantage. Their number is 660. It appears very desirable to substitute these schools for the useless and positively injurious class of dame schools.

735 children are in the national and parochial schools, in which a sufficiently good knowledge of reading and writing, with the rudiments of arithmetic, may be acquired, if the children remain at school for a sufficient length of time; and 466 are in other charity and endowed schools, in which the instruction given corresponds with that in the middling and superior schools.

Thus 3764 are receiving some useful instruction, and 1006 are at school, but cannot be said to gain much by their attendance, completing the whole number of 4770. Abstract of scholars:—

In Sunday Schools.....	666	1006
Dame	340	
Common Day.....	784	3764
Middling.....	510	
Superior.....	525	
Evening.....	83	
Infant Schools.....	660	
National and Parochial Schools.....	735	466
Other Charity and Endowed	466	
Total 4770		

ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS.

The opening meeting of the session was held at the Society's new rooms in Grosvenor Street, on Monday the 4th of December, J. B. Papworth, V.P. in the chair,—when it was announced that Her Majesty had been graciously pleased to become the Royal Patroness of the Institute. James Medland, of Gloucester, was elected an Associate. Among the donations laid upon the table, was a splendid volume of original drawings, chiefly architectural, by Panini, Bibiena, Oppenort, Cellini, and others, and presented by Sir John Drummond Stewart, through C. Barry, V.P.

A paper was read by Mr. John Blore, Associate, being the first part of a History of the English School of Gothic Architecture.

A communication was read from the Chevalier von Klenze, Honorary and Corresponding member at Munich, describing a peripteral Ionic Temple erected by him at Munich, and decorated with polychromatic embellishments; also a communication from Signor Pittakys, of Athens, to C. H. Bracebridge, Esq., of Atherston Hall, respecting colours found on ancient buildings.

Dec. 18.—P. F. Robinson, V.P. in the chair.—The Right Hon. Sir Robert Peel, Bart. M.P. was elected an Honorary Fellow, and the following distinguished foreign architects were elected as Corresponding Members:—M. Hubsch, of Carlsruhe; M. Ohlmüller, Munich; M. De Salucci, Stuttgart; M. Lavess, Hanover; M. De Lassaulx, Coblenz; M. Förster and De Nobile, Vienna; and Messrs. Serrure, Professor and Broula Member of the Academy at Antwerp.

The second part of Mr. John Blore's History of the English School of Gothic Architecture, was read. Mr. T. L. Donaldson, Hon. Sec., read a paper drawn up by him 'On Architectural Notation,' with the proposition of a uniform system to be generally adopted. A communication from R. D. Chantrell, of Leeds, Fellow, was read, describing the mode of quarrying in that neighbourhood; also a description of Baron Wetterstedt's patent marine metal.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

TUES. Architectural Society Eight, P.M.
WED. (Geological Society) 1 P. Eight.
THURS. (Artists and Amateurs' Conversations) Eight.
THURS. Zoological Society, (Gen. Business)..... Three.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

LYCEUM.—OPERA BUFFA.—We can but afford the shortest possible space for mention of Ricci's 'Scaramuccia,' revived this day week, in which Mile. Scheroni made her *début*, and Miss F. Wyndham her first appearance this season, before a full and fashionable audience. This is of the less consequence, as a single hearing has not enabled us to decide upon the value of the new *prima donna*; leaving musical gifts and graces for future discussion, we shall content ourselves with describing her, as very young, rather pretty, and full of vivacity. Miss Wyndham has improved amazingly since last year: she may now rank among the best English singers at present on the stage.

THE THEATRES.—The Genius of Pantomime, which seems to have been held in thralldom for several years past by an opposing power (the Genius of Dulness, probably, if so anomalous a genius may be supposed to exist), has suddenly broken her chains (aided by some superior genius), and resumed her sway over

The young, the gay, the free.

DRURY LANE and COVENT GARDEN have gone to work with an earnestness worthy,—we will not say of a better cause, for Time and Precedent have combined to make pantomimes legitimate,—but certainly of a higher. Our business, however, is with the results; and in both instances they may be said to be unusually successful. It must be quite unnecessary to enter into any detailed report of a species of entertainment which most people make a point of seeing, and a point of not reading about. We shall therefore do little more than give a list of their several titles. The Drury Lane Pantomime is called 'Harlequin Jack-a-Lantern, or the Witch of the Drooping Well.' It went through, on the first night, with a degree of smoothness and precision almost without example, except at Covent Garden Theatre during Mr. Farley's best day. Its principal attractions, perhaps, are the St. Alban's Steeple Chase, and the Messrs. Grieve's admirable moving Panorama.—The Covent Garden pantomime bears the title of 'Harlequin and Peeping Tom of Coventry, or the Ladye Godiva and the Witch of Warwick.' There is much fun and humour throughout, but the principal feature is the Diorama by Mr. Stanfield—one of the most splendid that ever he has painted.—The HAYMARKET has produced a fairy piece, called 'Whittington and his Cat.' It may last for the short time it is wanted, but this theatre is out of its element when it attempts such matters, and therefore it is not to be wondered at that no great effect should have been produced by it.—The ST. JAMES'S has produced a version of 'Pascal Bruno.' We cannot say much in praise of it, and we cannot, at so very merry a moment as Christmas, persuade ourselves to say anything *against* anything.—The ADELPHI has a pantomime called 'Harlequin Silver Sixpence, and the Giant Penny-Piece.' Who can doubt their taking their *change* out of this?—The OLYMPIC has a fairy tale, called 'Puss in Boots,' which has quite fallen in with the taste of its audience. We never remember to have seen such numerous audiences, at this time of the year, as this week has produced to Drury Lane, Covent Garden, the Adelphi, and the Olympic.

MISCELLANEA

New South Wales.—Some of our readers may perhaps hear with surprise the amount of revenue already raised in the colony of New South Wales. The following is the official report of the receipts for the quarter ending 30th June, 1837:—

	£.	s.	d.
Customs	45,264	12	0
Duties on Spirits distilled in the Colony ..	348	2	0
Licences to retail Spirits	2,875	0	0
Auction Duty, and Licences to Auctioneers ..	1,530	10	0
Post Office.....	1,110	7	1
Crown Lands.....	20,498	18	7
Rents of Tolls, Ferries, and Markets.....	1,160	10	1
Fees of Public Offices.....	1,852	14	5
Fines levied by Courts of Justice.....	774	14	10
Charge for Water supplied to Shipping.....	55	4	0
Proceeds of Sales of Property found in possession of Convicts	732	10	3
Rent of Pews in Churches	6	15	0
Repayment of Loans	10	17	7
Miscellaneous.....	28	15	0
TOTAL.....	85,190	1	9

This was an increase on the corresponding quarter of 1836, of more than 7000*l.*

Education in Egypt.—[From Mr. Waghorn's letter in the *Morning Chronicle*.]—The London Church Missionary Society gets on well. Miss Holliday, who arrived here about twelve months ago, having completed her Arabic studies, has taken charge of eighty girls for education. I beg particularly to point at this as the first female school in Egypt; but I expect, ere six months more, something in this way will be put forth by the Pacha, who would do well to instruct his female subjects as well as male. There are 9,000 boys now at school at Cairo, besides 7,000 at Alexandria, and some other large towns of Egypt; in all 27,000.

Otus Brachyotus, or Short-eared Owl.—Some peculiar habits of this bird were lately observed by Capt. Neely, whilst collecting for the Ordnance Survey of Ireland. This species of the sub-genus *Otus* being migratory, is much rarer than the *Otus vulgaris*, or long-eared owl, and it differs from it in many striking respects, such as the small size of the elongated feathers, commonly called ears, which in this species can only be discerned when the bird is living, and in its tendency to diurnal habits. But in the instance now recorded it exhibits other peculiarities of habit which afford a still more remarkable line of distinction. The point of Magilligan, forming the Derry side of the opening of Lough Foyle to the sea, is studded at its extremity with numerous sand hillocks, in which the rabbits burrow and the sheldrakes lay their eggs, as in other similar localities. But here a new occupant for the burrows of the rabbits appears in the *Otus brachyotus*. These birds are regular in their autumnal appearance, and are seen to sit at the openings of the burrow holes, and to run into them when disturbed. Captain Portlock having directed further attention to the fact, and pointed out the necessity of guarding against any source of fallacy, the truth of the first statement was fully established, more than one having been shot on emerging from the holes, and another actually caught in a trap at the mouth of a hole when endeavouring to make his escape.

Baron de Thierry.—According to the New South Wales papers, this gentleman has applied to the governor, Sir R. Bourke, for protection in an attempt to recover a large estate in New Zealand, which, according to his own report, he thus became possessed of.—About fifteen years ago, "judging that New Zealand was on the eve of civilization, and would at no distant period yield a large return for the investment of capital," he entrusted two chiefs, named Shungie and Waikato, who were then at Cambridge, and the Rev. Thomas Kendall, missionary, with property to the amount of nearly 800*l.* for the purchase of an estate in that part. In compliance with the Baron's request, Mr. Kendall procured 40,000 acres of land, for which, as stated in the deed, he gave the natives thirty-six axes; what became of the residue of the property is not known. A regular deed of agreement, however, making over the land to Baron de Thierry, was drawn up, and signed by Mudi Wai, Patu One, and Nene, in the presence of Captain Herd, master of the *Providence*, his first officer Mr. Green, and Mr. Kendall, missionary. Circumstances prevented the Baron from emigrating to New Zealand as intended, until 1835, when, on his arrival, he found that the land had been subsequently sold by the natives, and was in possession of a person, who, the Baron says, has contracted with the British government for timber to the amount of 35,000*l.* It is this last fact which, we suspect, has given rise to this absurd claim. The natives have acted as more civilized people would have done, only with less formality. Does the Baron suppose that there were no moral obligations attached to the possession of his 40,000 acres? In America, in New South Wales, and every other colony, the cultivation of a large proportion of every grant of land within a given time, is a condition of the grant; and this is but a formal acknowledgment of natural justice; but the natives of New Zealand, not being observers of forms, proceeded summarily, and hearing nothing, seeing nothing, knowing nothing, of the thirty-six axe Baron, thought it wise to put his axes and other people's to the good use of heaving out a road through the wilderness, to help his civilization on its onward march.

A New Rain-gauge, contrived by the Rev. Thomas Knox. The object of this instrument is to register the

amount of rain that falls when the wind is in different points. Its construction is very simple. The water, instead of descending from the reservoir directly into the tube of registry,—passes through a lateral tube into an annular-shaped vessel, divided into eight compartments, each of which terminates below in a graduated glass tube. It is obvious, then, that if the eight tubes be set to correspond with the cardinal and intermediate points, and the reservoir be made to revolve on a vertical axis by means of a vane, the direction of which corresponds with that of the lateral tube, the object proposed will be attained. Mr. Knox has preferred to make the reservoir fixed, and the system of tubes moveable; but the result is obviously the same.

Vegetable Physiology.—M. Mirbel has been making some observations on the cambium of vegetables, in which he confirms the opinion of Grew and DuRoi, that all vegetable tissue has been cambium at first, or that mucilaginous matter, of extreme delicacy, which he, in other terms, names cellular mucilage.

Irish Eloquence.—A friend was speaking to Archbishop — of certain Irish orators, and said, "They have a great command of language."—"You mistake, sir," replied the Archbishop, "language has a great command of them."

On the Antiquities of Tara Hill.—At a meeting of the Royal Irish Academy, Mr. Petrie, by permission of Col. Colby, read the first part of a paper on this subject, being a portion of the memoir written to illustrate the Ordnance Map of Meath, now on the eve of publication. The author first gives a detail of the mode of investigation adopted. An accurate survey and ground plan of the locality was first procured. Translations were then made by Mr. O'Donovan of such ancient Irish MSS. as could be found relating to the subject of inquiry; the different copies, where such existed, having been carefully compared, so as to obtain the greatest possible accuracy in the text. Those of chief value, two poems and a prose tract, are compositions of the tenth, eleventh, and twelfth centuries, and are contained in the ancient Irish topographical work called the *Dinseanchus*, copies of which are preserved in the books of Lecan and Ballymote, in the possession of the Academy, as also in MSS. in the College Library, and in the library of the Duke of Buckingham at Stowe. Of the poems, one is the composition of Cineth O'Hartigan, who was chief historian of the northern half of Ireland, and according to the annals of Tighearnach, died in 975. The other is the work of Cuan O'Lochain, who, according to the same authority, was killed in 1024, having been for the two previous years, chief poet and lawgiver of Ireland, after the dismemberment of the monarchy in the person of Maelsenchlin the Second. The prose tract is not of equal antiquity with either of these pieces, but is more copious in its descriptive details, and is of a date at least prior to the twelfth century. The writer appears to have personally examined the monuments remaining in his time, and often describes their state of preservation with remarkable exactness. From a comparison of the accounts given in these documents with the monuments ascertained by the survey to be still in existence, not only all the remaining vestiges have been identified with sufficient certainty to warrant the insertion of their respective names on the map, but the localities also of several other monuments of less importance, but which are now wholly effaced, have been so far determined as to furnish full materials for the construction of a ground plan, exhibiting a restoration of the whole. The number of these monuments, and the great extent of ground which they cover, will be at once evident from an inspection of the map; and, as a striking instance of the historic interest possessed by them, it may be shortly stated, that the strongest evidence has been adduced, from MSS. much more ancient than any hitherto cited on the subject, to show that a remarkable obelical pillar-stone, which now serves as a head-stone to the grave of the rebels who fell here in 1798, is the celebrated *Lia Fail*, or coronation stone of the Irish kings, which has been generally supposed to have been carried into Scotland by the Dalriadic Colony in 503, and thence to have been taken by Edward the First into England, where a stone alleged to be the same is, it is well known, still shown under the coronation chair in Westminster Abbey.

ADVERTISEMENTS

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.

FACULTY OF ARTS AND LAW, SESSION, 1837-8.
The Lectures in the Classes in this Faculty will be resumed on WEDNESDAY the 10th January, 1838. Such a Division of the Subject is made, in most Classes, as enables a Student to enjoy at advantage the last part of the Course. The Fee is proportionally reduced.

CLASS OF NATURAL PHILOSOPHY AND ASTRONOMY.
Commencement of the Course for the Session, in consequence of the late Vacancy in the Chair, Professor JAMES JOHNSON, B.A., of St. John's College, Cambridge.

EXPERIMENTAL COURSE, Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 4 to 5 p.m. Subjects for the present session—Mechanics, Hydrostatics, and Pneumatics. The Lectures will commence on THURSDAY, Feb. 1st.—**MATHEMATICAL COURSE on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, from 4 to 5 p.m.** Subjects—Mechanics, Hydrostatics, and Pneumatics, and of the progress of the Pupils should permit Astronomy. This Course will commence on WEDNESDAY, Jan. 10th. The Professor confides himself, during the present Session, to the subjects above mentioned, in consequence of the lateness of his appointment.

CHINESE LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE.—On WEDNESDAY, the 2nd February, at 3 p.m., PROFESSOR KIDD will deliver an INTRODUCTORY LECTURE on the Nature and Structure of the CHINESE LANGUAGE; and after the Lecture will confer with Gentlemen desirous of learning the Language, to the arrangement for a Class.—PROF. KIDD will deliver a Course of six Lectures on the LITERATURE and MANNERS of the CHINESE, on Wednesdays, at 7 p.m., beginning on the 7th Feb.

JOHN HOPKINS, Dean of the Faculty,
CHAS. C. ATKINSON, Secretary.

23rd Dec. 1837.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.

PROFESSORSHIP OF ITALIAN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE.

Applications from Gentlemen desirous of this appointment, will be received by the Council until Friday, Feb. 2nd, 1838.
Dec. 23rd 1837. CHAS. C. ATKINSON, Sec.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.

JUNIOR SCHOOL.

UNDER THE GOVERNMENT OF THE COUNCIL OF THE COLLEGE.

HEAD MASTERS.

THOMAS HEWITT KEY, M.A., Professor of Latin, University College.

HENRY MALDEN, M.A., Professor of Greek, University Coll. The School will RE-OPEN for the next Term on TUESDAY, the 16th January. The year is divided into Three Terms: Fee for each Term, 5*l.* The Hours of attendance are from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The Subjects taught without extra charge are, Reading, Writing, the Properties of the most familiar Objects (Natural and Artificial), the English, Latin, Greek, French, and German Languages, Ancient and Modern History, Geography (both Physical and Political), Arithmetic and Book-keeping, the Elements of Mathematics and of Natural Philosophy, and Drawing. Prospectuses and further Particulars may be obtained at the Office of the College.
CHAS. C. ATKINSON, Sec.
23rd Dec. 1837.

N.B. The following Assistant Masters receive Boarders:—Mr. Bichan, 16, Euston-square; Mr. Hardy, 32, Mornington-crescent; Mr. Haselwood, 20, Upper Gower-street; Mr. Wright, 36, Tottenham-place.

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ORNAMENTAL WORKS OF ART.—S. MAWE,

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RICHARD HEATHFIELD, Superintendent.
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3*s.* Paternoster-row, Dec. 28, 1857.

THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN REVIEW; or, EUROPEAN QUARTERLY JOURNAL, No. XI.

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I. Hallam's Introduction to the Literature of the XVth and XVIth Centuries.
II. Tourists in the Pyrenees.
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VI. Government of British India—the Wellesley Despatches.
VII. The Bench and the Bar.
VIII. Steam Communication with India—Col. Chesney's Expedition.
IX. A Poor Law for Ireland.
X. The Hanoverian Coup d'Etat—Ernest and the Constitution.
XI. The late French Elections.
XII. J. & E. Taylor, Red Lion-court, Fleet-street; and all Booksellers.

GEOLOGICAL TRANSACTIONS.

VOLUME V., PART I., will be published on the 1st January, 253 pages 4to., 16 Plates, 47 Woodcuts, and the following Papers, besides Notes and Extracts: Weaver on the South of Ireland—Byrne, on Antirip—Riley, on the Squarloria—Bayfield, on the Coast of the St. Lawrence—Nelson, on the Bermudas—Wetherell, on Hampden and Fossils—Prestwich on Gauris—Vesichylois, on Mayan and Siles—Roderick, on Fossil Crustacea—Mantell, on Fossil Birds—Griffith, on Syntetia Veins in Chalk—Egerton, on Cervical Vertebrae of Ichthyosaurus—Mantell, on the Forest of Dean—Stokes, on East Wood—Williamson, on Lias and Oolite Fossils—Lyle, on Seeland and Moen.—Price to the Fellows, 1*l.* 1*s.*; to the Public, 1*l.* 12*s.*

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